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Hopes for Gulf peace raised and then dashed by conditional offer to withdraw from Kuwait

Bush calls on Iraqis to oust Saddam

By Peter Stothard in Washington and Our Foreign Staff

IRAQ'S WITHDRAWAL CONDITIONS

The key conditions laid down by Iraq for agreeing to withdraw from Kuwait are:

☐ A full ceasefire

☐ Abrogation of all United Nations resolutions concerning Iraq

☐ Israeli withdrawal from the Occupied Territories

☐ Security Council to guarantee all Iraq's historical rights on land and sea in their entirety (implying that Iraq will continue to claim Kuwait)

☐ Withdrawal of all Allied troops from the Gulf within one month of ceasefire

☐ Overthrow of Kuwait's ruling al-Sabah family

☐ Allies to pay the entire cost of rebuilding Iraq

☐ Cancellation of Iraq's £30billion debts

☐ Syria out of *Lebanon*

HOPES for an end to the Gulf war were raised and quickly dashed yesterday after Iraq offered for the first time to withdraw from Kuwait, but with a string of conditions attached.

President Bush denounced the statement from Iraq's ruling revolutionary command council as a cruel hoax. He challenged the Iraqis to oust President Saddam Hussein.

John Major rejected the offer as a bogus sham, Kuwaiti leaders called it a big ploy, and Israel said it was a doomed attempt to head off a ground war and inevitable defeat. But the Soviet Union and Iran, who have been at the forefront of recent peace moves, welcomed the statement as a positive step. The UN Secretary-General, Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, said it needed careful consideration.

People in Baghdad took to the streets and fired guns in the air in celebration of the end of the war yesterday morning as the radio announced the offer to comply with UN resolution 660. Shares rose and the oil price dipped. But the euphoria soon dissipated as coalition leaders studied the full text, decided that it contained no real initiative and declared that the bombing would continue.

Resolution 660 was the first of 12 passed after the invasion of Kuwait. It demands the unconditional withdrawal of Iraqi forces. Yesterday, Iraq said that "in order to achieve a *dignified and acceptable* political settlement" it had decided to accept the resolution, "including the clause related to Iraqi withdrawal". But in return, Iraq demanded an immediate ceasefire, the withdrawal of foreign troops from the region, an end to sanctions, and a role in the future government of Kuwait.

The statement repeated Iraq's insistence that Israel withdraw from the Occupied Territories, adding that if it failed to do so, it should face similar UN action to that taken against Iraq. Syria should also cease its involvement in the Lebanon. The allies should pay for the rebuilding of Iraq, and all other UN resolutions — including that declaring the annexation of Kuwait null and void — should be revoked.

The first news of the Iraqi offer caught the White House by surprise. There was an early sense that Saddam might have cracked under the crippling air attacks on his military machine and in the fear that a ground assault was imminent. Some officials feared what is known as the "nightmare scenario" in which Saddam would withdraw *his troops keeping his* own power intact.

Within hours, however, the White House spokesman, Marlin Fitzwater, declared: "The more we look at it, the worse it gets."

Mr Bush said: "When I first heard that statement I must say I was happy that Saddam Hussein had seemed to realise that he must now withdraw unconditionally from Kuwait. Regrettably, the Iraq statement now appears to be a cruel hoax dashing the hopes of the people in Iraq and, indeed, around the world."

Mr Bush noted that the celebrations in the streets of Baghdad showed the people's desire to see the war ended. The way for that to happen was for Saddam to order his forces out of Kuwait, but he *added: "There is another* way for the bloodshed to stop. And that's for the Iraqi military and the Iraqi people to take matters into their own hands, to force Saddam Hussein the dictator to step aside."

In Saudi Arabia, preparations for a ground war intensified with new emphasis on the clearing of minefields. An American military spokesman in Riyadh said that a new weapon was being used: fuel-air explosive bombs that spray a fine mist of propane-like fuel that is ignited, creating a fireball that sucks up oxygen and incinerates everything near by. Allied commanders hoped that the shift in the Iraqi attitude on withdrawal from Kuwait could be turned to their advantage by persuading Iraqi commanders that the death and destruction they were experiencing was for nothing.

Administration officials, however, feared that the offer might become as successful a propaganda coup as the deaths of the civilians sheltering from American bombs in Amiriya on Tuesday.

The timing of the proposal was also seen as significant, coming before the Iraqi foreign minister's mission to Moscow to see President Gorbachev on Monday. Moscow said yesterday that it was looking forward to Tariq Aziz's visit "with impatience" and the Soviet foreign minister, Aleksandr Bessmertnykh, said the Iraqi proposals *opened "a new chapter* in the history of the conflict. This is an important beginning."

The initiative also came as the Iraqi deputy prime minister Saadoun Hammadi left *for Tehran for his third visit* in three weeks. The Iranian news agency described the offer as a step towards peace.

Senior UN officials met urgently to consider the Iraqi *offer* and were said to be "taking it more seriously than the Americans" and Nasser al-Kidwa of the Palestinian Liberation Organisation said: "Anyone who does not see the real change does not want to see it."

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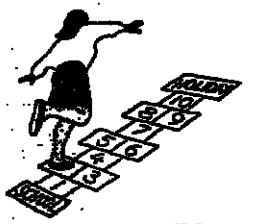
Bush: denounced Iraqi peace offer as a hoax

TODAY

Child's play for adults



Keeping the children occupied at half term can be a full time job. Today *The Times* presents the best of entertainment

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Round five, for some

Arsenal and Leeds attempt to settle their fourth round differences today but the fifth round of the FA Cup is the main weekend focus

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Death in a Sydney suburb

The bizarre story of a psychiatric treatment programme that killed 24 people

SATURDAY REVIEW

Please don't try this at home

Faced with the knowledge that some children put sandwiches in video recorders, Lynne Truss wonders if the programmes are necessarily more interesting

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No peace yet: a Palestinian girl negotiates two Israeli policemen in Jerusalem yesterday

Heseltine opposes early poll tax move

By Douglas Broom
Local Government Correspondent

MICHAEL Heseltine, the environment secretary, is fighting a cabinet battle to avoid bringing forward legislation to abolish the poll tax before the next general election.

Faced with pressures from fellow ministers to have a bill ready by October, Mr Heseltine has made clear that he fears that hurried legislation would risk producing "another botched job." The final decision on a replacement for the community charge and reforms to the structure of local government will be made by the prime minister, who is chairing the cabinet committee overseeing the poll tax review.

Senior cabinet members want to keep open the option of introducing legislation to abolish the poll tax in the autumn if the prime minister decides not to go to the country until next year. Mr Heseltine is urging cabinet colleagues to put their faith in tough new capping criteria and an expanded transitional relief scheme to hold down poll tax bills for the next two years.

In the meantime he has been told by the cabinet to produce outline proposals for the future of local government finance and structure by the end of March to form the basis of the Conservative manifesto for the May municipal elections. Sources close to the review said last night that Mr Heseltine was moving towards adopting the idea of a property

Continued on page 24, col 7

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Inflation falls for third month

By Colin Narbrough, Economics Correspondent

ANNUAL inflation slowed to 9 per cent in January as extended new-year sales depressed prices of clothes and household goods, and petrol became cheaper, according to the latest government figures.

The fall in the retail price index for the third consecutive month confirmed the picture painted by the government of steadily falling inflation. The defeat of inflation has been declared the government's prime policy objective.

In the City, the inflation figures aroused fresh hope of a further interest-rate cut, probably by half a percentage point, before the Budget on March 19. Some analysts believe Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, encouraged by the favourable response from financial markets to this week's half-point cut in the base rate to 13.5 per cent, could try to pare more off this week.

The retail price index (RPI) rose 0.2 per cent in January to 130.2, bringing the annual rate down to 9 per cent from 9.3 per cent in December. At its peak in September and October, it stood at 10.9 per cent. Mr Lamont was aware of yesterday's inflation figures before he announced the base-rate cut on Wednesday after a barrage of demands for urgent action to prevent the recession deepening.

With further decreases in the petrol price likely this month, the RPI appears ready to fall still further before the big drop expected in April. The Treasury's official forecast is 5.5 per cent inflation in the final quarter of this year, but government and City forecasters now expect it to be even lower. Some analysts foresee it falling as low as 3.5 per cent, matching the level achieved by Britain's main European competitors. The rise in the RPI in January was the lowest since last March. Though food, liquor, housing costs and rail fares rose, a 3.7 per cent fall in the price of clothes and footwear was the biggest since May 1921.

Prices of household goods, mainly furniture, furnishings and electrical appliances, fell 1.5 per cent last month, the biggest fall on record. Food prices, which for the last two years have been forced up by hot, dry summers, showed the lowest rises since 1989.

The RPI excluding mortgage interest payments and poll tax, the measure regarded by the Treasury as a better guide to inflation, slowed to an annual 7.4 per cent from 7.7 per cent in December.

John Smith, the shadow chancellor, said the inflation rate was still too high for an economy in severe recession, and renewed Labour's call for urgent interest rate cuts to stop recession deteriorating into slump.

☐ Banks and building societies have begun to cut mortgage rates just two days after the base rate was cut by half a point (Sara McConnell writes). The Bradford and Bingley building society will cut its rate to 14 per cent from 14.5 per cent for new borrowers on Monday. However, existing borrowers will continue to pay 14.5 per cent for the rest of this year as most of *them are on annual review.*

The Norwich and Peterborough building society has cut its rate by 1 per cent from 14.5 per cent to 13.5 per cent for new customers borrowing more than £60,000.

Measuring inflation, page 8
Shoppers' scepticism, page 8
Sterling firm, page 33
Rate cut hopes, page 36

Allied raids go on despite Baghdad offer

From Christopher Walker *in Eastern Saudi Arabia*

THE relentless air war against Iraq continued last night as American and other allied commanders received orders to make no change in offensive operations as a result of the conditional offer of an Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait.

Less than an hour after the offer was announced on Baghdad radio, causing a short-lived wave of euphoria among Kuwaiti exiles and Saudi citizens alike, two F15 jets left the Dhahran air base to carry out another of the 2,600 sorties flown against Iraq in the 24 hours ending at 6.30pm last night.

As the planes screamed overhead, their burners shooting out licks of flame, a burly US military policeman manning a road block gave his own answer to President Saddam's offer. "That man is full of lies." the serviceman shouted, *and then pointed to the* sky. "There is our two-word answer to his attempt to fool us: 'air war'."

American scepticism on the ground was accompa*nied by uncompromising* statements from the allied central command in Riyadh that there would be no relaxation in the blitz against Iraqi targets in Iraq and in occupied Kuwait. "Until our mission is changed by the national command, we are going to execute our campaign to the letter," pledged Brigadier General Richard Neal, the US military spokesman, said.

In Western circles, the US hard line was seen as a move to keep up pressure on Iraq in order to force the dropping of conditions attached to the withdrawal offer. "I see this as the beginning of the end game, but it may be a long and bloody one," a senior *European* envoy said. "It is a sign that Saddam is weakening, and his opening bid for a way out."

Even before the announcement from Baghdad, some American commentators in Saudi Arabia had predicted that a Soviet-brokered peace agreement was on the horizon. Colonel David Hackworth, defence consultant for *Newsweek*, said that he was so sure that this would happen that he had booked his ticket home on February 24.

General Neal made clear that until there was a *change in orders*, allied forces would continue to hit Iraqi vehicles in Kuwait, even if they appeared to be moving northwards rather than south towards the allied front lines across the Saudi desert.

The general admitted that even in the allied war room, there had been an atmosphere of "cautious, guarded optimism" when the first news from Baghdad was received. This rapidly evaporated as the attached conditions, more numerous than mentioned previously, were noted.

Neal: no change in allied battle plan

It is now considered unlikely that an assault that may cost tens of thousands of lives will be launched immediately while the Iraqi offer is being considered.

The American response to the Iraqi offer contrasted strongly with initial euphoria shown by Saudis and Kuwaitis.

Among many Saudi citizens, there was bitter disappointment when it became clear that Iraq's offer was hedged with *conditions* that the coalition was soon to find unacceptable.

IN 1989,
TWENTY THREE
MILLION
ROMANIANS GOT
THE
SAME CHRISTMAS
PRESENT:
THE DEATH OF
THE
CEAUSESCUS.

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Vexed judges bolt door on determined suitor

By *Joe Joseph*

EVEN the legal profession, not famous for turning down a fee, has tired of arguing for or against Thomas Mathew, whose seven-year tangle in the law courts came to an end yesterday when Sir Patrick Mayhew QC, the attorney general, finally had him declared a vexatious litigant, the legal term for a nuisance.

Mr Mathew, aged 45, who feels he has been diddled out of a fortune that should have come to him in his brother's will, will not be able to bring fresh proceedings, or continue existing ones, without the leave of the High Court.

His battle has resulted in over 300 hearings before more than 50 High Court judges. Mr Mathew has filed negligence or criminal conspiracy suits against 50 firms of solicitors, banks and estate agents. His brothers and mother have not been spared.

The saga began when his elder brother Theobald, a bachelor farmer and Lloyd's underwriter, died in 1983. Mr Mathew was a beneficiary in his will, but has not seen a penny of the estate, which he says was worth more than £5 million. Lawsuits have swallowed whatever money there might have been left after inheritance taxes. Mr Mathew claims three unlawfully appointed solicitors squandered £3.8 million after improperly administering the estate, selling his brother's farm and its harvested potato crop below market value, and failing to locate bank accounts and stock deeds.

No sooner had Lord Justice Farquharson and Mr Justice Millett informed Mr Mathew yesterday that he had effectively become a legal pariah than Mr Mathew announced he would appeal. The decision did not seem to come as a surprise. Reading a prepared statement, he said: "The real loser in this case is the law ... Legally it was very complex. In practice it was very simple. They stole the money. I am now ruined."

How complex? It took the judges from 10am to 11.40am yesterday to give the court just a brief summary of what Mr Mathew had been up to in the courts. *It was a summary* punctuated with phrases such as "this action was unnecessary and vexatious", "it is difficult to imagine a more unreasonable application or *one with less chance of success*", "the whole exercise was unnecessary and wasteful".

The pursuit of justice has forced Mr Mathew to abandon his profession of master printer and become a full-time litigant, representing himself. He is financed and housed by friends. His wife, Princess Olga Romanoff, great niece of the murdered Tsar Nicholas II, lives with their three children in Scotland. He has spent more than £45,000 photocopying legal documents and ferrying them from court to court.

The judges praised Mr Mathew for his courteous *manner in court and his* diligence in swotting up on the law, but they gave the clear impression that they thought he had become hopelessly obsessed.

The case may well continue.

Mathew: seven-year court *battle runs out of time*

Surprise Baghdad communiqué of conditional compliance with United Nations

Faces of hope: American soldiers in Germany tie yellow ribbons to a tree, left, on hearing Iraq may quit Kuwait, and members of the exiled Kuwaiti government celebrate in Saudi Arabia.

THE IRAQI OFFER

THE text of the Iraqi Revolutionary Command Council statement, monitored by the BBC at Caversham:

Oh dear Iraqis, Oh honest Arabs, Oh Muslims who truly believe in Islam, Oh honest and free men of the world ... in order to rob the evil US-Zionist-Atlantic alliance of the opportunity to achieve their premeditated goals: and in appreciation of the Soviet initiative conveyed by the envoy of the Soviet leadership: and in compliance with the principles outlined in leader President Saddam Hussein's initiative on August 12, 1990, the Revolutionary Command Council has decided to declare:

First: Iraq's readiness to deal with security council resolution number 660 of 1990, with the aim of reaching an honourable and acceptable political solution, including withdrawal. The first step that is required to be implemented as a pledge by Iraq regarding withdrawal will be linked to the following:

A A total and comprehensive ceasefire ...

B For the security council to decide to abolish from the outset resolutions 661, 662, 664, 665, 666, 667, 669, 670, 674, 677, and 678 and all the effects resulting from all of them, and to abolish all resolutions and measures of boycott and embargo, as well as the other negative resolutions and measures that were adopted by certain countries against Iraq ... before August 2, 1990, which were the real reasons for the Gulf crisis ... Iraq should not incur any negative effects for any reason.

C For the United States and the other countries participating in the aggression, and all the countries that sent their forces from the region to withdraw all the forces, weapons and equipment which they have brought to the Middle East region before and after August 2, 1990 ... including the weapons and equipment that certain countries provided to Israel under the pretext of the Gulf crisis, provided that these forces, weapons and equipment are withdrawn during a period not exceeding one month from the date of the ceasefire.

D Israel must withdraw from Palestine and the Arab territories it is occupying in the Golan and southern Lebanon, in implementation of the UN Security Council and the UN General Assembly resolutions. In the case that Israel fails to do this, the UN Security Council should then enforce against Israel the same resolutions it passed against Iraq.

E Iraq's historical rights on land and at sea should be guaranteed in full in any peaceful solution.

F The political arrangement to be agreed upon should proceed from the people's will and in accordance with a genuine democratic practice, and not on the basis of the rights acquired by the al-Sabah family. Accordingly, the nationalist and Islamic forces should primarily participate in the political arrangement to be agreed upon.

Second: the countries which have participated in the aggression and in financing the aggression undertake to reconstruct what the aggression has destroyed in Iraq in accordance with the best specifications with regard to all the enterprises and installations which were targeted by the aggression and at their expense. Iraq should not incur any financial expenses in this regard.

Third: all the debts of Iraq and countries of the region — which were harmed by the aggression and which did not take part in the aggression, either directly or indirectly — to the Gulf countries and to the foreign countries which took part in the aggression should be written off ...

Fourth: the Gulf states, including Iran, should be given the task of freely drawing up security arrangements in the region and of organising relations among them without any foreign interference.

Fifth: to declare the Arabian Gulf region a zone free of foreign military bases and from any form of foreign military presence. Everybody must undertake to observe this.

This is our argument, which we declare before the world, clear and shining against the traitors and their imperialist masters ...

RESOLUTION 660

UN Security Council resolution 660, calling for the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Iraqi troops, which was passed on August 2, said:

The security council, alarmed by the invasion of Kuwait on August 2, 1990, by the military forces of Iraq, determining that there exists a breach of international peace and security as regards the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, acting under articles 39 and 40 of the Charter of the United Nations:

1. Condemns the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait,
2. Demands that Iraq withdraw immediately and unconditionally all its forces to the positions in which they were located on August 1, 1990,
3. Calls upon Iraq and Kuwait to begin immediately intensive negotiations for the resolution of their differences and supports all efforts in this regard, and especially those of the Arab League,
4. Decides to meet again as necessary to consider further steps to ensure compliance with this resolution.

MOSCOW

Cautious welcome tempered by dispute at senior level

From MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

MOSCOW responded with cautious optimism to signs of a possible end to the war, but it was an optimism tempered by evidence of division within the establishment and by signs that the superpower alliance, which has weathered four weeks of war, might yet founder on arrangements for peace.

The most authoritative comment came from President Gorbachev's chief spokesman, Vitali Ignatenko, who said that the Soviet leader was satisfied and hopeful after learning that Iraq might be ready to withdraw its troops from Kuwait. "The positive news from Iraq has been received with satisfaction and hope in Moscow," he said. He added that the Soviet leadership was waiting with impatience for the arrival of Tariq Aziz, the Iraqi foreign minister, tomorrow.

Mr Aziz's visit will continue a round of hectic diplomacy in Moscow which began with the visit of the French foreign minister on Tuesday, continued with the Kuwaiti foreign minister on Thursday and the Iranian foreign minister, whose visit began yesterday. A three-member delegation from the European Community, comprising the Irish, Dutch and Italian foreign ministers, is expected in Moscow today.

The hopeful response from President Gorbachev's office contrasted with a straight refusal to comment from the Soviet foreign ministry. Vitali Churkin, the ministry's spokesman, said before the release of Mr Ignatenko's statement that he was not authorised to speak for the Soviet leadership and that he wanted to see more details of Iraq's statement before commenting.

The foreign ministry has throughout the Gulf confrontation appeared less optimistic than the president's office about the prospects of achieving an Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait. It has also given a distinctly cool reception to the diplomatic efforts of Yevgeni Primakov, Mr Gorbachev's special envoy who returned from his third visit to Baghdad earlier this week speaking of possible "rays of light" in his talks with President Saddam Hussein. Any attempt to elicit foreign ministry clarification of this was met with the instruction to contact Mr Primakov, who is now in Japan, or the president's spokesman.

Although he has conducted talks on the Gulf war with all the visiting foreign ministers, Aleksandr Bessmertnykh, the new Soviet foreign minister, and foreign ministry officials seem to have taken a backseat since the outbreak of war. The political running has been made by Mr Gorbachev and Mr Primakov.

Judging by defensive remarks made by foreign ministry officials, the ministry is being blamed in some quarters for being too supportive of the American position in the Gulf and for not having done enough to prevent the war. On Thursday Mr Churkin insisted, not for the first time, that Soviet diplomacy had done everything it could to avert the war, but that Saddam had been immoveable.

No Soviet official has revealed details of Moscow's role in persuading the Iraqi leadership at least to mention the possibility of withdrawal, but Mr Primakov said in Japan that Moscow had drafted the outline of a possible settlement. He insisted that it required the complete withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait, in line with UN Security Council resolution 660, but said the main points of the plan should for the moment remain secret.

From the conditions set by Iraq, it is none the less possible to speculate that Moscow was responsible for introducing the financial elements, which are the only new elements. A scenario can be envisaged where the territorial requirements, the withdrawal of Israel from the occupied Arab territories and the withdrawal of Syria from Lebanon, are referred to a subsequent international conference on the Middle East; where the withdrawal of foreign troops from the Gulf is agreed on a stage-by-stage basis, and where the financial guarantees of compensation become the key to the start of an Iraqi withdrawal.

Voice of America: Marlin Fitzwater, the White House spokesman, telling the press that Iraq's offer to withdraw from Kuwait "clearly contains conditions" and is not enough to stop the Gulf war

UN peace troops at the ready

From JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

THE United Nations has drawn up contingency plans to dispatch peacekeeping troops to Kuwait within hours in the event of an Iraqi withdrawal. "We have always been working in the sense of preparing for the observation of a withdrawal of Iraqi forces," Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, the UN secretary-general, said in his first public comment on the Iraqi announcement.

The five Nordic countries — Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden — and Canada have offered to send military observers to the Gulf at short notice to monitor an Iraqi withdrawal. UN sources said yesterday the organisation would have no difficulty in sending a small contingent within 24 to 48 hours, probably from the Nordic countries. Canada had probably disqualified itself from providing peacekeepers by participating in the allied war campaign.

Diplomats said the initial detachment of military obsservers would then be supplemented by a fuller peacekeeping contingent to Kuwait, possibly numbering about 6,000. United Nations sources said the second wave could follow in several days. Peacekeeping troops currently in Cyprus and Lebanon may be temporarily redeployed to the Gulf as a stopgap measure until a full UN force can be mustered.

The dispatch of a peacekeeping contingent is the first of many tasks likely to fall to the United Nations in the event of an Iraqi withdrawal. At their meeting on January 13 Señor Pérez de Cuéllar presented President Saddam Hussein with ideas contained in a UN working paper on the course of events if Iraq complied with UN resolutions.

Reiterating what President Mitterrand of France told the UN General Assembly in September, Señor Pérez de Cuéllar said that "everything would be possible". He emphasised that the UN would ensure that Iraq would not be threatened after a withdrawal.

President Bush had personally pledged that American forces would not attack Iraq if it withdrew to its pre-invasion positions, and had said that the United States did not intend to maintain ground forces in the area after the war, Señor Pérez de Cuéllar reported. The United States was also committed to easing UN economic sanctions against Iraq, the UN secretary-general had told Saddam.

The United Nations would send "forces from acceptable states to assist in the return to the pre-August situation and in safeguarding the security of Iraq's borders," he said. After that, regional security arrangements had to be drawn up, as called for in security council resolution 598 ending the Iran–Iraq war.

Señor Pérez de Cuéllar suggested that regional arrangements could include the removal of all weapons of mass destruction, including those belonging to Israel.

Anthony Parsons, page 12

Missing TV men held in Baghdad

London — Four American television journalists who went missing on the Saudi-Kuwaiti border four days after the Gulf war began are reported to be alive and well in Baghdad, their fate to be decided personally by Saddam Hussein (writes Melinda Wittstock, Media Correspondent).

The Iraqi military has held the four men from the American network CBS in Baghdad for two weeks, CNN reported yesterday. The four, including the CBS London bureau chief Peter Bluff and the Middle East correspondent Bob Simon, were picked up by an Iraqi military patrol in a remote part of the border area.

Peter Arnett, CNN's correspondent in Baghdad, reported that "reliable sources" had told him that the men "are still being investigated by the Iraqi intelligence service to determine the full circumstances of their capture".

Arnett reported: "Apparently there are three categories they can fall under: innocents who could be released, prisoners of war or spies. I am told that President Saddam Hussein will personally determine the outcome of the cases.

Lost crew named

Gulf — Flight Lieutenant Rupert Clark, aged 31, who captured the spirit of the first RAF bombing raid on Baghdad with the comment "it ran on rails", has been named as one of the two air crew missing when a Tornado GR1 was lost on Thursday (Lin Jenkins writes). Flight Lieutenant Steve Hicks, the navigator, aged 26, is also missing.

Justifiable war

London — The aim of a morally justifiable war is not to kill people but to render the enemy's military machine harmless, the Rt Rev Richard Harries, the Bishop of Oxford, said on Radio 4 yesterday. Sensitivity about targeting was not only proper but essential to people's existence as moral beings.

Churches under strain, page 12

Baath offices hit

London — Low-flying allied aircraft blasted the headquarters of Iraq's ruling Baath party in a predawn attack. The building in the city centre, which was empty, suffered massive damage, witnesses said. Baghdad civil defence said 306 bodies had been retrieved by noon from the shelter bombed early on Wednesday. *(AP)*

Protest by CND

London — The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament will march to the American air force base at Fairford in Gloucestershire which is being used by B52 bombers tomorrow (Michael Horsnell writes). Bruce Kent, the chairman of CND, will lead a rally attacking the use of Fairford as a frontline base for the Gulf conflict and warning of terrorist retaliation.

Death squad claim

London — Iraqi death squads have been killing and torturing trade unionists in Kuwait in an attempt to eradicate the labour movement, Hayef Issam el-Ajami, the leader of the Kuwaiti trade union federation, alleged in a letter to the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions in Brussels, yesterday.

Sapper buried

Hundreds of mourners in Rochdale, greater Manchester, attended the first military funeral of a British soldier killed in the Gulf. Sapper Alan Royle of the Royal Engineers, aged 25, died in an accident involving his own weapon.

Buying The Times overseas Austria Sch 32; Belgium B Frs 60; Canada $2.75; Canaries Pes 220; Cyprus 90 cents; Denmark Dkr 16.00; Finland Mkk 12.00; France F 11.00; W Germany DM 4.00; Gibraltar 80p; Greece Dr 270; Holland Gl 4.00; Irish Republic 80p; Italy L 3,000; Luxembourg Lf 56; Madeira Esc 220; Malta 43c; Morocco Dir 15.00; Norway Kr 14.00; Pakistan Rps 18; Portugal Esc 220; Spain Pes 220; [illegible]

Nightmare scenario reappears to plague the coalition

THE first sign of a white flag was raised by Iraq yesterday, 30 days after the start of the allied air campaign and 199 days since the invasion of Kuwait. If the withdrawal offer is genuine, the allies face the possibility of the "nightmare scenario" they feared.

Although a third of the Iraqi "battle-winning" equipment in Kuwait has been destroyed and President Saddam Hussein's nuclear and chemical weapons production capability has been put back at least five years, Iraq's vast war-fighting machine has only been reduced, not eliminated.

There is no evidence yet that the statement is anything more than a diplomatic ploy to stop the allies from mounting a land offensive. It must have been clear to Saddam and his advisers that some form of allied ground attack, if not a full-scale offensive, was imminent.

Aware that his ground forces had suffered high attrition in the past ten days of bombing, Saddam would have realised that a humiliating defeat was possible. The offer of withdrawal would be a way gain enough time to assess his next move.

He must also hope that the offer will stop the bombing. In that he has failed, because the Pentagon immediately announced that the campaign would continue. Any decision to halt or reduce the bombing would be a political one. But the military advice should be to maintain the momentum, if not increase it, to provide even more incentive to Saddam to withdraw unconditionally.

During the next few days, the bombing should focus solely on the Iraqi ground forces in Kuwait. For if a ceasefire were to be agreed, every additional tank, artillery piece and armoured personnel carrier destroyed would help to bring down Saddam's war machine to more acceptable proportions.

This latest example of Saddam's brinkmanship raises the spectre of some of his war machine surviving to fight again, writes Michael Evans

The statement from the Revolutionary Command Council indicates a shift in thinking, even if it is only the latest example of Saddam's brinkmanship. The Iraqi leader's ability to surprise has been one of the trademarks of this conflict. He has always wanted to divide the allies, and there could hardly be a better way than to announce an intention to withdraw. The Arab coalition would be under greater pressure than their Western partners to consider a ceasefire.

If Saddam were defeated in a land battle, the coalition, under the aegis of the United Nations, could have insisted on Iraqi troops leaving Kuwait without their heavy weapons, and possibly without their rifles. But a unilateral withdrawal would give Saddam enough bargaining power to keep his armour and weapons, and to remain in charge of a damaged but still potent military capability.

However, the nightmare scenario would not be as bad now as it seemed before January 17, when the allied air campaign began. If withdrawal had been announced before war had started, Saddam's military power would have been intact and the allied military presence rendered toothless.

Now, after 30 days of bombing, the allies have made such inroads into Saddam's war machine and have destroyed or damaged so much of Iraq's strategic infrastructure that, even if he were to survive as leader, his ability to threaten the region has been reduced enough to satisfy the coalition that the Iraqi dictator's territorial ambitions have been put back several years, if not for ever.

That is not to say his political ambitions have been curbed. For by withdrawing now, after allowing his troops and his people to suffer 30 days of bombing on a scale that has eclipsed even allied air raids in the second world war, Saddam's reputation in the Arab world would soar. President Mubarak of Egypt, on the other hand, might be judged in Arab eyes as the leader who supported a campaign that led to the death of thousands of Arab civilians.

If the war were to end today, it would be the first time in history that air power had won the day. All the armed services would have played a part in victory. By their very presence, the allied armoured divisions, which have not yet fired a shot in anger, the airborne divisions which have not crossed enemy lines, and the amphibious forces which have stayed afloat on 27 assault ships in the Gulf, have helped to keep the Iraqi troops trapped in their bunkers.

هكذا من الاصل

هكذا من الأصل

resolutions prompts wave of jubilation and expectation around the world

In Amman, Jordanians gather in the street to listen to the news on a salesman's radio, left, while a family in Tel Aviv rejoices on hearing that the end of the Gulf war could well be in sight

JORDAN

Fear of capitulation haunts Saddam's Palestinian backers

From Richard Beeston in Amman

NEWS of Iraq's offer to withdraw from Kuwait yesterday clearly stunned many Palestinians in Jordan, most of whom had enthusiastically supported Iraq in the month-long conflict and particularly, hailed Baghdad's bombardment of Israel with Scud missiles.

Although Jordan offically welcomed Iraq's offer, privately Jordanians and Palestinians appeared concerned that the announcement could be a prelude to capitulation by Baghdad.

"Generally, Palestinians and Jordanians are in a state of shock because in reality the idea that he (President Saddam Hussein) has accepted to withdraw was something none of us ever expected," said Nasser Tahboub, the director of the Institute of Advanced Policy Studies in Amman.

His view was confirmed in several interviews with young Palestinians who refused to concede that Iraq may have taken the decision to stop the war because it no longer had the strength or the will to continue the fight.

Although one of the preconditions to the Iraqi pull-out is the parallel withdrawal of Israeli forces from the occupied territories, there is a growing suspicion that this may be only a face-saving clause to disguise the fact that Saddam is about to concede defeat.

In particular, it is feared that Saddam's offer, whether genuine or not, will mean that Iraqi troops in Kuwait will be seriously demoralised if the allies pursue the war and the Iraqi forces are ordered to defend a country their leader has already agreed to abandon.

Ironically, Iraq's announcement coincided with widespread demonstrations throughout the Jordanian capital in support of Saddam as thousands of worshippers at Friday prayers streamed out of the city's mosques in angry demonstrations.

Riot police sealed off roads leading to the American embassy after one group of young protesters threatened to burn down the mission, while others harangued Jordanian parliamentarians demanding that the population be issued with firearms to defend the country against Israel and the West.

One of the biggest losers in an Iraqi defeat could well be the Palestinian Liberation Organisation, which has been Baghdad's strongest ally over the past six months, but which stands to lose most in the post-war negotiations for a regional security plan for the Middle East.

While King Husain of Jordan is considered indispensable for any future talks, because of his country's strategic location next to Israel, and his large Palestinian population, Western diplomats said that Yassir Arafat, the PLO leader, would have a much more difficult task in reasserting his position as the main representative of the Palestinian people.

"Arafat has played his role very badly," said one Western source. "He is now starved of funds from the Gulf states and as a result his influence has dropped in the occupied territories. He no longer has the power to influence decisions concerning the Palestinian people. His credibility has taken a hell of a bashing."

Ibrahim Ezzeddin, the Jordanian minister of information, welcomed Iraq's initiative. "We call on all the countries, which are part of the war, to really be positive about the offer and respond in a positive manner. The most important aspect is the acceptance of UN security council resolution 660 and the mention of the withdrawal from Kuwait," he said, emphasising that the allies should call a ceasefire and discuss the Iraqi demands.

Euphoric five minutes, page 12

ISRAEL

Officials dismiss offer as doomed

From Richard Owen in Jerusalem

ISRAEL yesterday dismissed Iraq's offer to withdraw from Kuwait as a doomed attempt to stop the imminent ground war and so avoid inevitable defeat. Senior Israeli officials said Baghdad was merely repeating its long-standing position and that linkage between Kuwait and Israel's occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip remained unacceptable.

Beneath the Israeli scorn, however, was an undercurrent of concern that the world, weary of the Gulf war, might accept Iraq's announcement as the beginning of a process which could ultimately lead to a comprehensive Middle East settlement in which pressure would be exerted on Israel to withdraw from the occupied territories. Since the conflict began last August, Israel's "nightmare scenario" has been that President Saddam Hussein would suffer military defeat but emerge as an Arab political hero, his military battered but ready to rebuild and fight again.

Yitzhak Shamir, the prime minister, told the BBC yesterday that there could be no peace or stability in the Middle East until Saddam was overthrown and his military machine was destroyed.

The Israeli plan for postwar negotiations assumes a defeated Iraq and with it a defeated Palestine Liberation Organisation, which supports Saddam. Such a defeat, Israel believes, would make it possible to exclude the PLO from any peace process.

Palestinians in the occupied territories welcomed Baghdad's announcement, seeing it as a glimmer of hope. Daoud Kuttab, a Palestinian journalist, accused the West of double standards in insisting on the unconditional implementation of United Nations resolutions relating to Kuwait without at the same time insisting on the fulfillment of resolution 242 on the Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank and Gaza.

But Eliyahu Ben-Elissar, the chairman of the parliamentary foreign affairs and defence committee, dismissed Iraq's offer. "As far as we are concerned, nothing has changed, because the reality of the Middle East has not changed. This is just another move by Saddam, a sort of gimmick, one of those exercise he engages in from time to time."

Israel remains braced for Iraq's long-threatened chemical weapons attack if the ground war gets under way and if Saddam believes defeat has become inevitable.

EUROPE

Allies sceptical of Iraqi peace proposal

By Michael Binyon
Diplomatic Editor

BRITAIN and its Western partners expressed deep scepticism yesterday over the offer by President Saddam Hussein to withdraw from Kuwait, suggesting it was an insincere propaganda move.

The Foreign Office yesterday was studying the text of the broadcast, but said it appeared that "unacceptable conditions" were being applied. There was a flurry of diplomatic consultations between the allies, but general agreement that military decisions must not be postponed by vague promises.

European leaders welcomed Saddam's willingness for the first time to discuss the principle of withdrawal. But they said his offer did not meet the United Nations conditions and called for evidence of a withdrawal.

Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, said a "mere verbal indication" that he might do something was not a case for distorting the military operation of freeing Kuwait. Saddam had to give "irreversible, decisive proof that this is happening".

President Mitterrand of France said the proposal was unacceptable as it stood. Germany also said it did not meet the United Nations conditions for withdrawal. And other allied foreign ministers, such as Mark Eyskens of Belgium, noted that Saddam had broken agreements before and this time had to present solid proof of his goodwill.

Saddam's statement also appears to back up the recent hints in Moscow that Yevgeny Primakov, the Kremlin's special envoy, had found a "ray of hope" during his Baghdad visit. The Western allies are keen to find out from Moscow how much substance there was in those talks. They will urge Moscow not to let Tariq Aziz, the Iraqi foreign minister, use his visit this weekend to weaken Soviet support for the allies. But Western analysts said it was likely that if Iraq was ready to signal a willingness for peace, it would try to use the Soviet Union as a conduit, rather than any Western country or other member of the coalition.

The troika of European Community foreign ministers, representing the present, past and future EC presidencies, led by Jacques Poos of Luxembourg, arrives in Moscow today to discuss Soviet peace moves. The ministers, who will hold talks with Aleksandr Bessmertnykh, the Soviet foreign minister, were to have met him in Spain on Thursday, but their visit was brought foward at the Soviet Union's suggestion. Their visit comes hard on the heels of that by Ali Akbar Velayati, the Iranian foreign minister.

Hurd: ground war is "inevitable"

The West believes the Iraqi broadcast was an attempt to delay the start of the ground war, which Mr Hurd said yesterday was "inevitable".

Japan also expressed scepticism on the Iraqi offer. But non-aligned and Muslim countries were seizing on the broadcast to call for peace negotiations. Chandra Shekhar, the Indian prime minister, called for a positive response from the coalition.

KUWAIT

Army of firms readied for work

By Michael Binyon

THE exiled Kuwaiti government is preparing a vast army of emergency contractors ready to sweep into the country and begin reconstruction the moment the Iraqi forces have left and military clearing-up operations have been completed.

But it will never again rely on foreign workers to run the country. The thousands of Palestinians, Indians and others who comprised almost 70 per cent of the prewar population will not be allowed back, and sensitive posts will never be given to non-Kuwaitis. In future, a Kuwaiti minister said yesterday, Kuwaitis will have to renounce their former luxurious lifestyle and do the hard work themselves.

The exiled government is negotiating with Western companies to send engineers and huge stocks of material to eastern Saudi Arabia, ready to begin the reconstruction operations, estimated by some Kuwaiti experts to cost at least $50 billion (£25 billion).

British companies may win many of the multi-million dollar contracts. Suleiman Mutawa, Kuwaiti minister of planning, held talks on Thursday with Peter Lilley, British trade secretary, and yesterday prolonged his stay in London because talks with representatives of leading British industries had gone so well.

Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, last week introduced the eight-man team to the emir and prime minister of Kuwait in Saudi Arabia. Their talks went so well that Mr Mutawa broke his journey to address a human rights conference in Geneva and pursue what he called "follow-up" discussions here. He and ministers for health, education, water, power and food are studying British proposals for the planned reconstruction.

No contracts have yet been awarded, and the Kuwaiti government is seeking bids from other American and European firms. They will be decided on their competitiveness and whether the firms already have compatible installations in Kuwait. But Mr Mutawa said contracts would probably be steered to firms from countries that had borne the brunt of the fighting.

THE SUNDAY TIMES

The royals debate

"The "decadent" nearly royals — as The Sunday Times leader described Viscount Althorp and Lord Linley — symbolise the underlying malaise at the heart of monarchy. Technically, as the Palace wearily explained, Viscount Althorp, whose marital problems displaced the Gulf from the front pages, and Lord Linley, currently enjoying a holiday in the Caribbean, do not receive money from the Civil List. However, the public have rumbled their game. They are tired of the way these pseudo royals are happy to jump on and off the royal gravy train without ever buying the ticket of duty that comes with a first class seat."

Andrew Morton, in The Sunday Times tomorrow.

ALLIED FORCES

British fleet told to stay vigilant

From Jamie Dettmer on board HMS London

SENIOR naval officers in the 26-ship British naval fleet in the Gulf cautioned their men against euphoria over the Iraqi offer and told them they must maintain their vigilance.

Within 30 minutes of the news of the Iraqi offer reaching the fleet, the warning was driven home by the sighting of a mine within 100 yards of HMS Brave, a Type 22 frigate.

The reaction to the news on the ships was mixed. On HMS London, the Royal Navy's flagship in the Gulf, there was a confusion of emotions. Some heard of the Iraqi offer from a BBC World Service bulletin at 3pm local time (12pm GMT). The news went round rapidly, circulated by excited officers and ratings. Many felt relief, others a sense of anti-climax. Some were disbelieving.

Captain Iain Henderson, commanding officer of the London, quickly took to the public address system to warn his crew against letting their guard down. Initially, he read out a message from the commander-in-chief of the fleet, Admiral Sir Jock Slater, informing ships in the Gulf of the Baghdad radio report.

"Now clearly that is stunningly good news," said Captain Henderson. "But, and it is a very big but indeed, nothing has changed at this very moment. Brave three minutes ago had a mine pass 100 yards away from her, we could have the same. And if we suddenly get filled with euphoria, we might unfortunately come to grief."

He added: "Until such time as we are withdrawn from a dangerous area, the game is on. It behoves all of us to be still well and truly ready for anything. Saddam Hussein is a slippery eel, let's make no mistake about it. Previously, we thought perhaps he was going to withdraw from Kuwait. He didn't.

"Although what I read out to you is potentially excellent news, at the moment it has no real substance, nobody has actually withdrawn from Kuwait. So therefore, without wishing to be dull or gloomy, I want you all to concentrate on the job in hand. It is my duty to get you all home safely to your families. It would be utterly tragic if we let our guard down now and thought we had entered peace and we go and let ourselves down and people get killed and we go home feelng absolutely dreadful."

London's crew listened in total silence to the captain's address. Only those men on the bridge, and in the operations and communications offices, and the mine look-outs continued their tasks. The sobering message had an effect.

But then humour took over. "Damn," said Royal Marine Captain Gordon Mackenzie-Philps. "No chance of that VC now."

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Supplies, not troops, should be target of allied jets in Kuwait

Even before Iraq's offer, Saddam was pursuing a more logical strategy than the allies, who are bombing the wrong sort of target, argues **Edward Luttwak**

MANY are now persuaded that Saddam Hussein is mad as well as bad, yet his strategy has been perfectly coherent. To emulate the successful models before him, Nasser, Sadat and Assad, all of whom started wars, suffered horrendous defeats and yet easily remained in power, Saddam need only kill appreciable numbers of Americans and survive physically.

So long as he refuses to withdraw from Kuwait voluntarily — *even if his troops are forced out* — he will retain the heroic reputation he has established by his stalwart resistance to American threats and American firepower, and by his Scud attacks on Israel.

A Western ruler who invested vast resources in missiles so ineffectual that they have killed fewer Israelis than one Palestinian with a knife would be submerged in ridicule. And a Western ruler who caused tens of thousands of his soldiers to die in hopeless combat of his own choosing would at best be hounded out of office.

In fact, Arab politics obeys exactly the same logic of costs and benefits. Because of the gap between supremacist self-image (Arab nationalism promises great power, not more independence) and the realities of military weakness, Arabs permanently feel humiliated. An Arab ruler who can frighten Israelis and kill Americans satisfies the greatest of needs by assuaging the accumulated humiliations of recent decades.

That being the only relevant political context, Saddam Hussein's conduct of the war has been very logical. Knowing that his air force was outmatched, he was content to leave it mostly inactive until its shelters were penetrated and destroyed. At that point, the remaining aircraft were sent off to Iran. Knowing that he had no navy to speak of, Saddam did not rely on it either.

Finally, he was clearly disabused of any illusions about his ground forces as well. For all its thousands of tanks, the Iraqi army could never mount fast armoured offensives in the Israeli style even against Iran's ragged troops, let alone opponents with decisively strong air power. It lacks the fluid direction that only strong-willed officers can provide — the very type of officer who can best stage a coup, and which the regime has been careful to weed out. Iraq's only real military strength is the *defensive* potential of its ground forces, and Saddam therefore had no choice but to wait until the Americans attacked the fortified positions of his troops.

True, an American ground offensive would certainly outmanoeuvre and defeat the Iraqi armies, killing tens of thousands of Iraqi troops, but Americans would also be killed — and Saddam could prosper politically after the inevitable defeat.

It may seem that American strategy has been equally coherent. Certainly, the US has circumvented Iraq's only real strength — its ability to defend ground with minefields, entrenched infantry and artillery — by waging war only from the air. Yet we now hear that the ground offensive is to begin next week, or before the end of February. Has the bombing campaign failed? The answer is both yes and no.

The air offensive quickly achieved its first aim, which was necessary to achieve all others: the suppression of Iraqi air defences. The *strategic* bombardment of Iraq's military infrastructure was equally successful. But when it came to dealing with Iraq's army in and near Kuwait, it was decided to bomb Iraqi forces to facilitate a ground offensive, instead of bombing the flow of supplies to make a ground offensive unnecessary.

The essence of any air strategy is the selection of targets, and it seems that the very structure of the US Central Command, organised many years ago to cope with a Soviet land invasion, has distorted the bombing campaign. The US has been waging an air war under the command of an army officer, General Norman Schwarzkopf, whose deputy is also an army officer, and who reports to the president through Colin Powell, chairman of the joint chiefs of staff, also an army officer.

It will be recalled that Iraq's Republican Guard has been bombed since the first night of the war. The reason for this great emphasis was (and is) that only its forces could seriously resist the Rommel-style offensive of deep penetration desired by General Schwarzkopf's army planners.

Technically, that is not an efficient way of using air power. Ground forces equipped with armoured vehicles, or dug-in, are notoriously resistant to bombardment (remember Cassino). That is why no more than 20 per cent of Iraqi tanks have been destroyed after three weeks of bombing, and an even smaller proportion of Iraq's far more dangerous artillery. By contrast, the rail and motorway bridges over which the Iraqis sent supplies to their main depots around Basra were easily cut once they were belatedly attacked in the second week of the war. More important still, the vast traffic of lorries that daily brings food and water to the Iraqi troops in Kuwait could still be attacked much more profitably than those forces themselves.

Moving lorries are far more easily seen than camouflaged armoured vehicles or dug-in troops. Half a million troops in a barren desert cannot live off the land as in Vietnam, nor can they be kept alive by a few camel trains in the night. If allied air power were used not as a species of long-range artillery, but to hunt for supply trucks, the Iraqi troops in Kuwait would soon enough have to be withdrawn.

Edward Luttwak is a leading American authority on military strategy

BOMBING

US support for air raids stays strong despite peace move

From Charles Bremner in New York

NEWS of Iraq's peace move sent a wave of relief across America yesterday, but opinion polls showed the country overwhelmingly supported further bombing, even if it meant more civilian deaths.

Word of the Baghdad broadcast reached Americans as they prepared for work yesterday morning, prompting a buzz of excitement at the chance that a bloody ground offensive might not be necessary. In trains, at bus stops and office buildings, people joked and bantered about beating Saddam hands down.

The euphoria, albeit premature, followed a day in which Americans, from coast to coast, demonstrated their strong support for the president's bombing campaign and anger towards the media for the way they presented the carnage in the Baghdad bomb shelter.

In a national poll conducted on Thursday, over 24 hours after the shelter attack, *USA Today* found that 92 per cent of Americans favoured continued bombing even if it led to more such civilian casualties. A full 41 per cent said the shelter bombing had made them "more supportive" of the war. Seven out of ten said civilian deaths were preferable to US military casualties. Eighty-four per cent of Americans blamed Saddam for the deaths in the bomb shelter and half the country believed US correspondents should not stay in Baghdad. The popular mood was seized by the *New York Post* in its banner headline yesterday: "Bombs away!".

Callers jammed radio and television stations to state their support for the military and attack the network broadcasters who used words such as "tragedy" to narrate the video footage of the bunker carnage. Most blamed Saddam Hussein for using civilians as "human shields". Throughout the war, polls have shown a belief among broad sections of the public that the media were too charitable towards Iraq's version of the war and hostile towards the American military. The Cable News Network (CNN), which has taken most of the heat because it has maintained a crew in Baghdad, said it had received more than a thousand calls from angry viewers over its correspondent's report from the Baghdad shelter. CNN also broadcast footage from ITN's team there.

The public reaction has clearly shown that while President Saddam has scooped a propaganda windfall from the shelter attack in the Middle East and elsewhere, *he has* failed so far to come close to moving American opinion, one of the targets he declared he could easily hit.

Another poll, conducted a day before the shelter attack and published yesterday by *The New York Times* and CBS, showed that the public overwhelmingly favoured continued bombing as an alternative to ground action. However, only 45 per cent of the public agreed that "a ground war to defeat Iraq would be worth the cost of losing thousands of American lives". Public approval of President Bush's overall job performance remained at 78 per cent, extraordinarily high.

Editors and broadcast managers have been struggling to analyse the backlash against the media, a matter of great importance in particular to the big television networks which face financial difficulties and depend on audience ratings for their income. One widespread explanation is that with broadcasts of military briefings, the public is seeing for the first time the adversarial give-and-take that is routine for any American-style press conference.

Fuel-air arms to clear Iraqi mines

By Nigel Hawkes, Science Editor

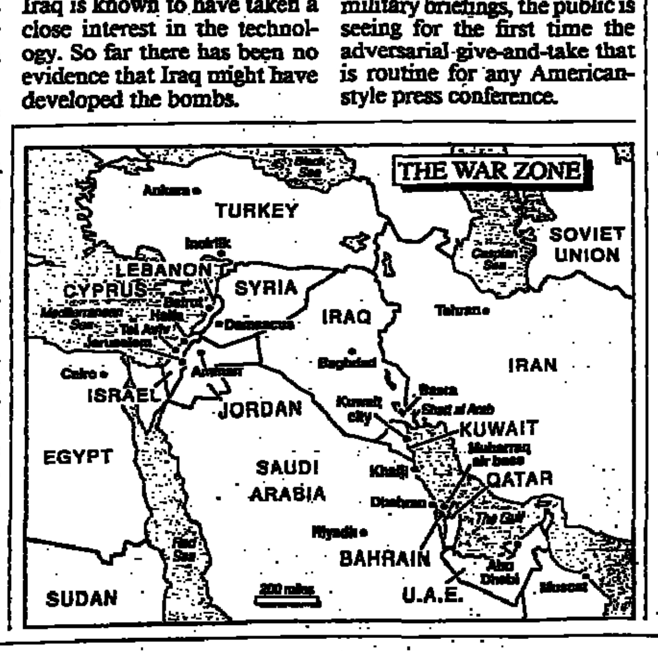
AMERICAN bombers have begun using fuel-air bombs, capable of producing a blast wave five times greater than a conventional explosive, to clear some of the 500,000 mines Iraq is believed to have laid to disrupt an allied advance.

US officials in Riyadh said yesterday that the bombs are being used with heavyweight "Daisy Cutter" bombs in an attempt to clear the minefields. The blast produced by the weapons rivals that of a tactical nuclear weapon.

Fuel-air bombs, which were used during the Vietnam war, are a devastating weapon against troops, both because of blast and because the intense fire depletes the air of oxygen and causes suffocation. Bunkers and armoured vehicles are insufficient to protect troops against its effects.

The 500lb bombs designed for mine-clearing are dropped from helicopters or slow-flying aircraft at about 2,000ft. Each bomb contains three 100lb containers which separate from the casing and float down under parachutes. Inside the containers is an inflammable liquid, ethylene oxide, which escapes when the canister ruptures, forming a cloud of gas about 50ft in diameter and 8ft deep. A delayed-action igniter then sets the gas cloud alight. If the timing is right, the result is a huge blast which can create sufficient pressure to detonate mines over a considerable area.

When first developed in the United States, the fuel-air bomb was described as "the poor man's atom bomb", and Iraq is known to have taken a close interest in the technology. So far there has been no evidence that Iraq might have developed the bombs.



Water therapy: Mark Doyle, a Life Guard trooper, taking his turn to use a makeshift but welcome shower in the Saudi Arabian desert to wash himself free, however briefly, from the clinging sand and dust

ROYAL AIR FORCE

Jets queue for fuel pump in the sky

From Lin Jenkins in the Gulf

THE dials of the display panel indicated they were near and coming in fast. "They must be close, they are at zero range," said Flight Lieutenant John Ingham, staring out of his side window in the RAF Victor jet fuel tanker.

Out of mine they came into view on the right wing, two jets heavy with bombs, and without a murmur over the radio they manoeuvred skilfully out of sight of the cockpit to the rear of the aircraft to couple with the hoses trailing out of the back in order to refuel in the air.

Viewed through the periscope of the rear console, the precision was remarkable. With all three aircraft travelling at about 400 miles an hour, the F3s nudged gently forward and pushed their probes into the basket at the end of each hose. "It would be difficult to say when a pair of aircraft came up as good as that in 20-odd years," shouted Wing Commander David Williams over the din as the planes sucked out fuel at 300 pounds a minute.

Full to the limit they peeled away from the Victor tanker, circling above the Gulf like a petrol station in the sky, the last friendly sight the aircrews would see before crossing the border on their bombing mission to Iraq.

Wing Commander Williams, who commands 55 Squadron which flies the Victors, believes air-to-air refuelling should be done without chat and fuss.

"They have enough on their minds with the surface-to-air missiles and triple A they are going to fly into. They don't want this to be a hassle," he shouted.

We had been flying for nearly two hours and as we maintained course circling above the desert, two more jet bombers from the Royal Saudi Air Force are expected, but there is always the possibility that others from the allied forces will be forced to make an unscheduled stop. In the front sit the pilot, Timothy Hatcher, and co-pilot Timothy Walker.

Just behind them is the fifth seat, which has been put back in especially for this trip. It has been deemed a hazard in combat, should the crew have to bail out. Back to back with the others sit the navigator and air electronics officer leaning on a desktop surrounded by dials and lights.

The wing commander pulls a can of orange juice from his bag and the pilot opens a flask of coffee and pours three cups, handing one to me. Next comes the Kit-Kat to complete a rather unexpected inflight service as they swop jokes and hurl affectionate insults at each other.

While there is little to do but wait, Flight Liutenant Ingham flicks through his mail. With two flights of over three hours each in one day there is little time to do it elsewhere.

Ahead of schedule the other two jets appear. Wing Commander Williams watches them through the periscope when they drop slightly behind. "Three, two, one, push. In, connect, right. What a star!" he shouts. They stay several minutes.

Once they have gone there are quick sums to do to see how much fuel is left to give the first two, should they return. In the event we are not needed and head back to base.

(This report is subject to allied military reporting restrictions)

ROYAL NAVY

Flagging morale receives a boost

From Jamie Dettmer on board HMS London

THE Royal Navy was yesterday praised by Lieutenant-General Sir Peter de La Billière, the British Forces commander in the Middle East, for its successful action against Iraqi ships. He told the crew of HMS London, Britain's flagship in the Gulf, that the British ships had played a major part in guarding the allies' eastern flank.

He told the ship's company: "We have annihilated and destroyed Saddam Hussein's ability to produce any opposition at sea. The Royal Navy has been directly responsible for dealing with something in the region of 25 per cent of all the Iraqi naval forces that have been sunk and destroyed, and, when you bear in mind that you are substantially less than 25 per cent of the total of allied ships at sea in this theatre, that is a very creditable performance."

While Sir Peter acknowledged that the allied air assault on Iraq and Kuwait had been successful, he warned the crew against complacency. "The air battle, effectively, has been won although Saddam does possess the capability which he could use in a suicidal and surprise manner."

He said that he was aware many men were eager to get home. "It will not be that far distant, but there is some time to go."

Sir Peter's visit to HMS London was well-timed; there has been a noticeable decline in morale during the past few days. Many of the crew are disappointed that, having practised for years in the unpredictable and windy seas of northern Britain, they have not yet seen direct action.

Others face the frustration of seeing HMS Brazen and HMS Cardiff being sent home while HMS London must stay. "Sadly, for operational reasons, the originally planned departure date for the four warships, London, Brazen, Cardiff and Gloucester, has had to be disrupted," Commodore Christopher Craig, the senior Royal Navy officer in the Gulf, said.

(This dispatch is subject to allied reporting restrictions.)

Vietnam veterans adjust to straight and sober war

From Christopher Walker in Eastern Saudi Arabia

WITH no sex, no drugs and very little rock 'n' roll, the American forces now waiting impatiently in the desert for the land battle are in very different shape from those who fought in Vietnam two decades ago.

The difference is so marked that the GIs have begun to call the Gulf conflict "the square war", while their officers maintain that before long it will be President Saddam Hussein who will be feeling the difference in military quality, determination and sobriety.

"It is a pleasure to walk from tent to tent and see soldiers without glazed eyes," said Sergeant-Major Lincoln Mallisham, aged 46, who served in Vietnam in 1969 and 1970.

Snuff, caffeine, cigarettes and chewing tobacco are the only stimulants to relieve the tedium of the wait for combat and to calm nerves. American combat engineers, the troops expected to be first across the border into occupied Kuwait, are chewing instant coffee straight from the jar for rapid effect. "Cooking it takes too long to hit you," said Sergeant Darin Hardwick. "We wash it down with water and it keeps us squared away."

The unavailability of local women is pointed out by the GIs' universal description of the veiled Saudi females as "Ninja Turtles". Although the American army now has many more women serving than during the Vietnam era, the absence of privacy in the desert is reported by male soldiers to have reduced temptation almost to nil.

Commenting on the differences, which have become an obsession in the lull before the land war, Mike Tharp, an American journalist, wrote optimistically: "In the last war, it was Cambodian Red, Thai stick, Park Lane joints and Cholon opium dens. Bam Mi Bam (33) beer. Enlisted men's clubs with Filipino fans lip-synching the war's top song: 'We've gotta to get out of this place.' NCO clubs clanging country and western through ever longer happy hours, there were dough-nut dollies, Tudo Street's 'numbah 1' silicone-enhanced baby-sans and government-inspected steam-and-cream massage-sauma baths near every firebase. That was the last war. The one we lost." As Michael Herr observed in his book, *Dispatches*, Vietnam was the first rock 'n' roll war, dominated by the music of groups such as The Rolling Stones, The Doors and Creedence Clearwater Revival; musically the square war is the quiet one.

American military stations only broadcast in a few areas and dozens of units are on the move, out of range every week. The disc jockeys are soft-spoken, in some cases avuncular, and there is an increasing emphasis on sentimental tunes. "They play our music from 1pm to 2pm," complained one black GI. "One hour."

According to defence analysts, the absence of drugs is dictated not only by the shortage of supply but also by the rigid screening process now undertaken by the US armed forces to weed out drug users.

The clean living has been accompanied by a new approach to service which some are comparing to the famous "can do" attitude of American troops in the second world war. Standard replies from a lower-ranking soldier to someone he salutes in the desert are "not a problem" and "I'll make it happen".

These are compared to well-rehearsed responses to superiors from soldiers in Vietnam such as "sounds like a personal problem to me" or simply "short!", the anti-war cry of men counting backwards from 365 until Day Deros (date of estimated return from overseas).

For GIs in Saudi Arabia, there is no Deros, but the vague phrase "for the duration". As Mr Tharp remarked with surprise: "American troops are preparing for their first big ground combat in nearly 20 years and they are going into it straight, sober and focused."

(This report is subject to allied military reporting restrictions)

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Snow, Saddam and slump send holiday bookings tumbling

By HARVEY ELLIOTT
AIR CORRESPONDENT

PEACE must be restored in the Gulf within three weeks if Britain's travel industry is to avoid a catastrophic collapse.

Tour operators, travel agents and airlines were briefly excited by yesterday's half-promise of a settlement but within hours were once again preparing to withdraw millions of holidays from sale in the face of their biggest downturn in bookings.

Some remain determined that once the war is over holiday-makers will flock back. Others are blaming the snow for the dearth of customers. However, many fear that the depth of the recession may be the main reason for the fall of well over half in the number of holidays being booked compared with the same time last year.

By early March, the industry will have to decide whether to hold on to thousands of charter flights and hotel rooms around the world, or to cancel them and run the risk that there could be a sudden upsurge that would leave many holiday-makers with no choice.

Tour operators are bound by a code of conduct to confirm their arrangements with clients eight weeks before travel. Pressure is growing for this to be reduced drastically to provide more flexibility and enable decisions on which flights to operate as events unfold.

David Epstein, director general of the Association of British Travel Agents, said: "I think that this year, with the particular problems faced by our members, we would be loathe to hammer them when they are down."

Peter Rothwell, managing director of the travel agents Lunn Poly, said: "No one has wanted to go anywhere for the last ten days, let alone into a travel agent's, because of the snow, and we will be monitoring closely what happens now that there is a thaw. Bookings were doing well before the Gulf war and could quickly come back again. The trouble will come if it drags on for a few months and begins to bite into the peak summer period or if the recession turns into a slump."

Harry Goodman, chairman of International Leisure Group, said: "Once the war is over there will be a wave of euphoria and people will want to get away from all the doom and gloom. All we can do until then is to take decisions on a day-to-day basis and be as flexible as we can in confirming bookings."

By now, almost half the six million summer holidays on offer should have been sold, but fewer than two million bookings have been made, almost all of them before the war began.

- Everyone is blaming the war, but Silvano Giraldin believes British Rail is as much at fault for there being only 35 diners in Le Gavroche last Friday night (Alan Hamilton writes).

The manager of one of London's most fashionable restaurants, who would in happier times expect all his 80 seats to be fully booked up to at least three weeks ahead, has been driven to drastic measures: a three-course fixed-price dinner, including service and taxes, for only £37.

Such is the pinch being felt by the hoteliers and restaurateurs of the capital that several of them banded together yesterday to launch a "Cheer up London" campaign.

Establishments taking part in the campaign have agreed to cut prices or make special offers. Nothing, however, is being given away for nothing. Three courses for £37 at Le Gavroche compares with its standard set dinner menu of £55 for six courses.

Fewer state pupils win places at Cambridge

By JOHN O'LEARY, HIGHER EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

THE proportion of state school pupils winning a place at Cambridge university has fallen for the first time in six years. Oxford has already announced a similar drop.

Only 45 per cent of last autumn's Cambridge entry came from state schools, compared with 47 per cent in 1989. Admissions tutors believe that changes designed to encourage state school applicants may be responsible for the decline.

Some colleges have been assessing applicants on A levels alone, rather than asking them to sit tests intended to replace the Cambridge entrance examination, which was abolished in 1985 because it was held to favour those from independent schools. Philip Ford, chairman of the inter-collegiate admissions forum, said yesterday that the process was working against state pupils.

"There is no intentional discrimination, quite the contrary," he said. "I think that the colleges will draw conclusions from this, although one should not exaggerate what has happened. The drop is depressing but it is just a hiccup in what has been a consistent trend in the last few years."

The proportion of state school entrants rose by 10 per cent between 1986 and 1989 following the abolition of the common entrance examination. Many state schools have been reluctant to enter pupils for the sixth-term examination papers (STEP), however.

Some think that the workload is too great after A levels, while others believe that the tests demand extra coaching. Dr Ford said, however: "In practice, applicants from state schools do just as well as those from the independent sector when they actually take the exam."

Independent school candidates have taken only half the places previously awarded to state school pupils. The rest have gone to overseas students after a big increase in applications from other European countries.

At Oxford, the proportion of state school entrants fell from more than 46 per cent to 44.5 per cent last autumn. An analysis of applications for entry in 1991 is not yet complete, but it is known that there were fewer applicants from state schools and fewer offers made to them in a year when there were more offers made overall.

Admissions tutors are concerned by the decline but cannot explain it. Like Cambridge, Oxford has been stepping up its efforts to attract state school applicants.

Planners 'stifling' Brecon Beacons

By JOHN YOUNG

MORE than 10,000 people, about a quarter of the adult population of the Brecon Beacons national park, have signed a petition expressing no confidence in the park planning authority.

They claim that people wanting to start businesses, including farmers who are being encouraged by the government to diversify, are unable to do so due to excessively restrictive planning policies.

The petition calls for a referendum on whether some areas should be removed from the jurisdiction of the park committee, including the town of Brecon, where the council has passed a resolution supporting "independence".

The Brecon Beacons is one of the 11 national parks in England and Wales established under a 1949 Act of Parliament, and its dismemberment would be legally and practically almost impossible but the petition organisers have asked Richard Livsey, SLD MP for Brecon and Radnor, to present the document to David Hunt, the Welsh secretary, in the hope that he will intervene in the dispute.

Ashford Price, who has won three Prince of Wales Awards for Enterprise, is a former farmer who now runs the Danyrogof Caves, said to be the largest complex in Western Europe and an important tourist attraction. He is anxious to expand his equestrian interests, including the breeding and training of shire horses, but has been unable to obtain planning permission.

"I have found no difficulty in working with other authorities like the Nature Conservancy Council and the Mid-Wales Development Board," he said. "But with the national park committee it is absolutely impossible.

"Farmers can't diversify. Many are selling up and their children are leaving the area. There must be changes which will allow people to earn a living or the place will end up as just one giant holiday home.

"What we are really concerned about is the off-hand attitude of planning officers. They are not really concerned about people and they seem to be keen on saying no to everything."

Gwyn Gwillim, a member of the park committee and a Powys county councillor, claims that if everyone in the area had been approached the number of signatories could have been doubled.

"One of my complaints is that we are not consistent," he said. "We tend to put stricter controls on small individuals than on large bodies like British Coal, British Telecom and the electricity board, which is allowed to clutter up the countryside with pylons.

"We gave permission to the water board to put up a filtration plant, which is a real eyesore and looks horrible in a very sensitive area, yet ordinary people have to bother about whether they have the right coloured tiles or slates on the roof of their home."

Martin Sitton, the newly appointed national park officer, said he was aware of the problems and recognised that communications in the past had been unsatisfactory. Since taking up the post at the beginning of this year he was determined to change things and intended to start planning "surgeries" where people could come with complaints and had already attended a number of public meetings.

About 70 per cent of all planning applications were passed, which was in line with the national average, but some schemes would still have to be refused and that was the problem. Until now overall responsibility for the national parks had rested with the Countryside Commission, but from 1 April the three parks in Wales will come under a new Welsh authority.

A commission spokesman said there had been a number of complaints about the unfairness of planning decisions and there was certainly a need for more consultation. The national parks review panel would be publishing its report next month, he said.

Traditional farming: sheep graze in the Brecon Beacons but residents say planners are hindering new initiatives

Restaurant burgers to be cooked for longer

By THOMSON PRENTICE
MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

The cooking time of beefburgers at McDonald's restaurants is to be extended after a food poisoning outbreak was linked to one of its outlets.

The company announced the move yesterday in response to a health warning on Thursday by Sir Donald Acheson, the government's chief medical officer, about the risks of under-cooked burgers. Officials found that nine people who had eaten burgers at a McDonald's restaurant in Preston, Lancashire, on January 19 suffered food poisoning caused by the bacteria Escherichia coli 0157. Five other people in the Preston area, and six others nationally, were affected but McDonald's are not implicated in these cases.

McDonald's said there was no definite evidence to connect the Preston cases to the restaurant, although the health department said there was a "highly significant association" between the illness and the consumption of burgers sold at the outlet.

Mr Justice Tudor Evans

In our review of Anna Reynolds's book, *Tightrope* (Saturday Review, January 26), we stated that Mr Justice Tudor Evans, the judge presiding at Miss Reynolds's trial for murder, gave an improper direction to the jury.

We have now seen the official transcript and are entirely satisfied that no such direction was given and no pressure put on the jury.

We unreservedly apologise to Mr Justice Tudor Evans.

100 jobs lost

One hundred workers were made redundant yesterday at the Larma clothing factory in Aspatria, Cumbria, and a further 100 were laid off for two weeks. Mr David Davis, managing director, said: "We failed to agree the conditions for the sale of Larma to Grasshopper UK and we had to implement redundancies immediately. We are now looking again at the viability of the factory."

Court settlement

THE Sunday Times agreed yesterday to publish an apology to Sean Doherty, a former Irish cabinet minister who complained that he had been libelled last year, and to contribute towards his legal costs. Mr Doherty, now chairman of the Irish Senate, agreed to withdraw his libel action in the settlement, which was announced in the Irish High Court. He said he felt that his reputation had been vindicated.

Hotel blocked

Proposals for a hotel and golf course at the listed country house Burley-on-the-Hill were blocked yesterday by Michael Heseltine, the environment secretary, who directed Rutland district council not to grant planning permission without his authority. The house was bought less than a year ago by a family trust formed by Azil Nadir, head of the collapsed Polly Peck group, and is for sale.

Astronomer Royal urges Clarke to clarify policy

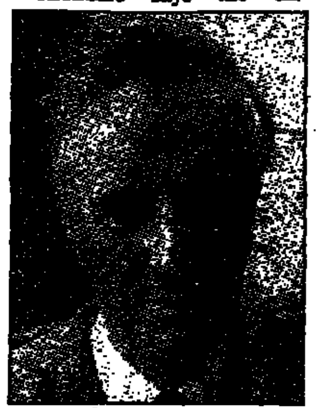
By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

THE new Astronomer Royal, Arnold Wolfendale, has challenged Kenneth Clarke, the education secretary, to make clear his policy on the future of astronomy and nuclear physics in Britain.

Professor Wolfendale, who promised when appointed Astronomer Royal last month that he would continue to battle for support for science, says in a letter to Mr Clarke that he believes the Advisory Board for the Research Councils has recommended further reductions in support for nuclear physics and astronomy, already suffering from cutbacks. This year, for the first time, the board's recommendations to the minister have not been made public.

"I really must enquire whether this policy is endorsed by your department", Professor Wolfendale writes. "Since these are high-profile branches of science, with international ramifications, the government must surely have a policy."

The education department said yesterday that it had no comment to make and would not have until Mr Clarke had had time to consider the Astronomer Royal's letter and respond to it. Professor Wolfendale says the uncertainty is a consequence of Mr Clarke's decision not to publish the board's recommendations — "a remarkable volte-face for a government that prides itself on openness".



Wolfendale: plea for a return to openness

The board's view, he says, appears to be that small science is suffering from a shortage of funds as a result of the large sums needed for telescopes and nuclear science facilities, and that new areas of science, such as biotechnology, also require support. From that, he suggests, has emerged the recommendation that further cuts should be made in astronomy and nuclear physics to make room for more spending on the small sciences.

The letter is another step in a campaign by British scientists that is growing increasingly strident, and further evidence that the government has lost the confidence of senior scientists.

Altered extradition charges contested

By EDWARD GORMAN
IRISH AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

THE Crown Prosecution Service is to challenge a decision by Thames magistrates' court on Thursday that altered charges under which an IRA suspect extradited from Ireland is to be tried.

The decision to initiate proceedings in the case of Desmond Ellis follows a strong protest by the Irish government yesterday pointing out that the rule of speciality in extradition agreements had been broken by the decision. The statement said the Irish government expected the prosecuting authorities in Britain to challenge the magistrates, adding that an assurance had been given that this would now take place.

Mr Ellis, aged 38, a television repairman from Finglas in north Dublin, originally faced two charges under the 1883 Explosive Substances Act of conspiracy to cause an explosion likely to endanger life on or between January 1981 and October 1983, and possession of explosives.

Thames magistrates' court rejected the charges as submitted and substituted two new ones brought under the Offences Against the Person Act 1861 and the Criminal Damage Act 1971, that he conspired to cause explosions within the UK with intent to cause grevious bodily harm and destroy property.

The switch in the charges was considered by London extradition lawyers as a violation of the principle that an extraditee only be tried on the charges under which he was originally extradited.

A spokeswoman for the Crown Prosecution Service confirmed that action is to be taken and that consideration is being given to a number of possible options on how to proceed.

Those include seeking to quash the magistrate's decision on the grounds that it is illegal or unreasonable in a divisional court, or proceeding through a voluntary bill of indictment at the High Court.

The Ellis case is being watched closely in Dublin. His case was the first to be dealt with under the 1987 Extradition Act, which was designed to simplify extradition.

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Alzheimer's disease breakthrough may lead to treatment

By Thomson Prentice, Medical Correspondent

THE cause of an inherited form of Alzheimer's disease has been discovered by British scientists, offering the prospect of new drugs to treat it.

The disease is the most common progressive brain disorder, accounting for 75 per cent of dementia in the elderly, and is incurable. Because of the ageing populations in Britain and other Western countries, urgent research is being conducted into the condition internationally.

Although the latest finding relates only to a minority of cases, it may lead to the causes of other types of the disease being detected, one of the researchers said yesterday. The discovery was made possible by a Nottingham schoolteacher who saw her father and three of her aunts struck in rapid succession by the disorder, and realised that it was unlikely to be a coincidence.

Carol Jennings, aged 36, a teacher and the wife of a Methodist minister, contacted doctors investigating the condition at the biochemistry and neurology departments of St Mary's Hospital medical school, Paddington, west London. She persuaded ten of the family's 40 members to supply blood samples to the researchers. They then were able to establish a link between the early onset of inherited Alzheimer's and a genetic mutation.

The mutation governs the production of amyloid, a protein known to form deposits in the brains of Alzheimer's sufferers. Amyloid is part of the body's ageing process and is associated with degenerative illnesses, including rheumatoid arthritis.

Children of a father or mother carrying the genetic defect have a 50 per cent chance of acquiring it, and if they do so, will go to develop the condition.

The studies, funded by the Mental Health Foundation, will be published in *Nature* next week. Dr Mike Mullan, one of the researchers, said yesterday: "This is the first time that a cause has been established in Alzheimer's disease.

"We are extending our work to look for mutations in the same gene in other families, and have already found it in one more. We are now in a position to start to look for treatments. The discovery will make the whole basis of drug trials more rational."

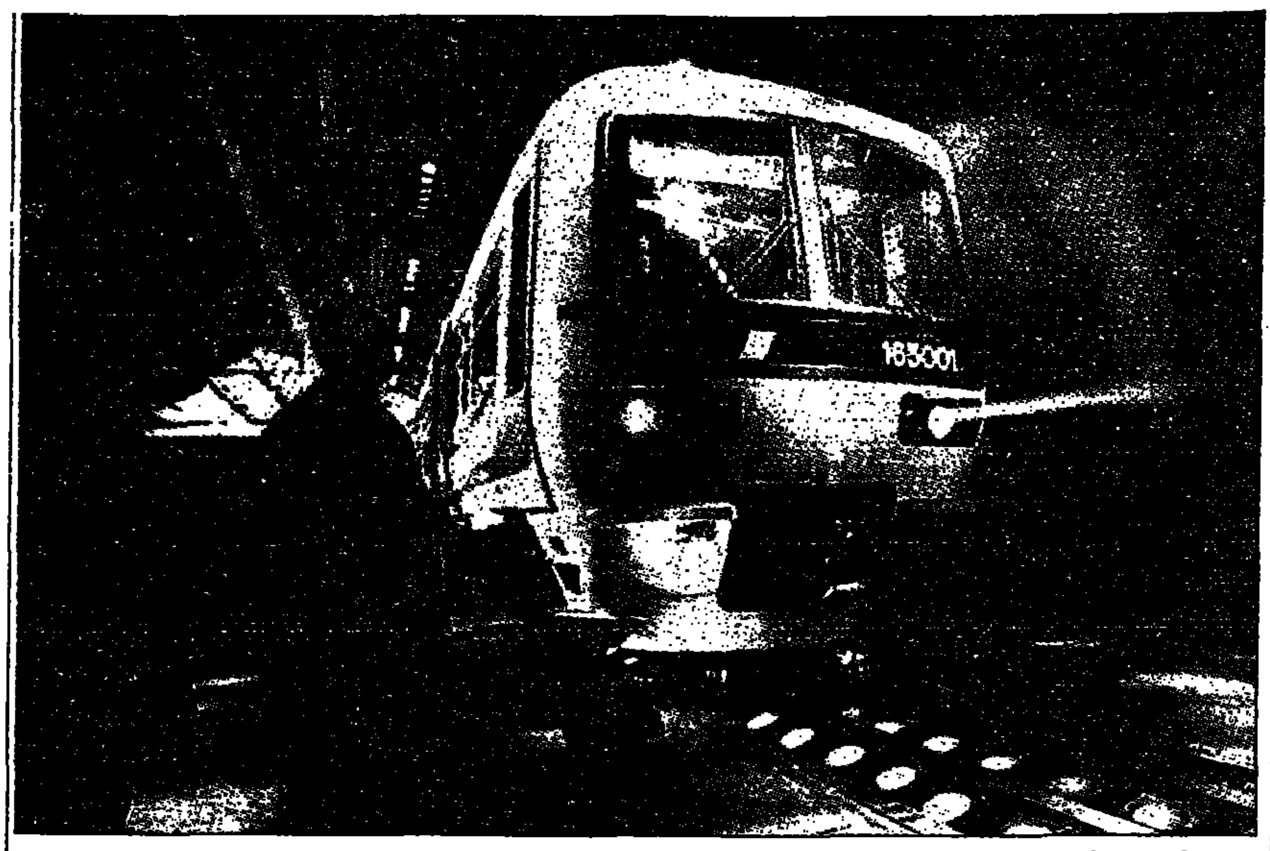
Dr Mike Owen, a geneticist at the University of Wales medical college, Cardiff, who took part in the work, said: "We may also have identified an important genetic factor related to the late onset of non-familial Alzheimer's, but this is a long way from a cure. However, by understanding the process causing the disease we can design treatments to interfere with it."

About 15 per cent of Alzheimer's sufferers are believed to inherit the condition, but symptoms seldom appear before the age of 60. The disease debilitates nerve cells in the brain, shrinking the volume of brain substance, and gradually destroying memory and personality.

☐ Research into a disease in donkeys could help in the development of a vaccine against cervical cancer, according to veterinary scientists. The animals are prone to tumours caused by a virus from the same family as that which can trigger cancer of the cervix in women.

Specialists at Glasgow university verterinary school are treating the tumours with a form of immunotherapy that could assist efforts to produce a cervical cancer vaccine. Their work is being supported by a charitable donkey sanctuary in Sidmouth, Devon, and the Cancer Research Campaign.

☐ The health department yesterday said 130 new Aids cases were recorded in the UK last month, bringing the total to 4,228 since reporting began in 1982. Of the total, 2,375 patients have died, including 119 last month.



White hope: British Rail yesterday took possession of its new Class 165 Network Turbo "snow proof" trains in York. The £104.3 million fleet of two and three-unit trains, built by Brel, are to operate from London stations

Muffling the roar of all-night trains

By Michael Dynes
Transport Correspondent

PROPOSALS for Britain's first national rail noise protection standard will be published in the next few weeks, Roger Freeman, the transport minister, has confirmed.

The noise standard, which will be applied to all new railway lines, is expected to provide people living near them with the same level of protection from railway noise that is provided for those living near new roads.

It is understood that the standard will include a noise trigger level, above which rail operators will be legally obliged to provide effective noise insulation for residents badly affected.

The recommendation is contained in the report by Dr Christopher Mitchell, head of the vehicles and environment division at the transport and road research laboratory in Berkshire. The report was submitted to the transport department in December.

British Rail has suggested a 24-hour standard of 70 decibels. Critics say that level is too high and would allow an increase in the number of freight and passenger train movements at night without undermining the standard.

Loan will replace LPO's lost grant

By Simon Tait
Arts Correspondent

THE London Philharmonic Orchestra has secured a £500,000 interest-free loan to replace the grant the orchestra was expecting from the Arts Council's enhancement fund for the next financial year.

Elliott Bernerd, chairman of the London Philharmonic Trust, said: "The loan, from a private source which we cannot name, is conditional on the Arts Council's commitment to extra financial support for our residency at the South Bank, which we take up in the autumn of next year."

He could not confirm that the Arts Council had promised an extra £600,000 for 1992-3 to coincide with the residency, but said that "amicable negotiations" had been continuing this week with the Arts Council. The council last night refused to confirm a figure but said that it had agreed that an extra grant would be made.

As well as missing out on enhancement funding, the LPO was the only music client of the Arts Council to have its revenue grant cut for next year, from £465,000 to £462,000.

Driver's sentence doubled

By David Young

THE Court of Appeal has doubled a nine-month youth custody sentence imposed on a teenage driver who killed a pedestrian after spending more than five hours at a public house.

The heavier sentence on Lisa Veronica Ashley, an 18-year-old secretary, was announced by the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Lane, yesterday. He said that the court agreed with the Attorney-general, who had challenged the original sentence on the ground that it was too lenient.

Ashley, of Sunderland, was sentenced and banned for five years by Newcastle crown court in October after she admitted driving while unfit through drink and causing the death of Dennis Bryant by reckless driving. Mr Bryant died in hospital after being hit by Ashley's car.

Lord Lane said that Ashley had earlier fallen asleep in a pub and bar staff had had to wake her up. She was on the wrong side of the road when the accident happened and did not stop, but reported to the police the following day.

Lord Lane: original sentence too lenient

Missing girl, 8, murdered

By Craig Seton

POLICE launched a murder hunt yesterday after the naked body of a girl aged eight, who disappeared while running an errand for her parents to a local shop, was discovered.

Karin Griffin was found by searchers in a barrel of water on an allotment a few hundred yards from her parents' terraced house in Sherwood Street in the mining community of Mansfield Woodhouse, Nottinghamshire. She was believed to have been stabbed.

Karin's unemployed father Bill, and mother, Sharon, reported her missing on Thursday evening after she failed to return from an errand to buy teabags at Ray's general store 150 yards from their home. Police conducted house-to-house enquiries and searched a park and coaltip near by before her body was discovered 12 hours later.

Professor Stephen Jones, a Home Office pathologist, conducted a post mortem examination yesterday. Later police appealed for information about a young man with a racing bicycle who may have been seen with Karin.

Karin, one of three daughters, was wearing blue jeans , a black jumper decorated with snowmen and a jacket when she disappeared.

Jean Case, a neighbour, said yesterday: "Karin was a lovely girl. She always had a wave and smile for everybody. Every morning she used to wave to me through the window on her way to school. She was a pretty little thing. The whole street is in a state of shock."

Nottinghamshire police said yesterday that a local man, aged 29, was being questioned.

Henry VIII's suit spared a dousing

By Simon Tait

HENRY VIII's suit of armour narrowly missed serious damage as hundreds of gallons of water flooded the White Tower in the Tower of London, it was disclosed yesterday.

Guy Wilson, Master of the Armouries, said that water from a burst pipe feeding a fire hydrant on the roof fell through the Tudor and Renaissance galleries to the hunting galleries on the ground floor where it penetrated cases containing swords and firearms. "It was a miracle that Henry VIII's armour was not affected, but the water settled underneath the case without getting in," he said.

Damage assessed at £50,000 to £80,000 was done to cases, floors and exhibits. Fortunately, the burst, early on Monday, was discovered within an hour-and-a-half and armouries conservators rescued threatened exhibits, but the incident highlights the plight of a national collection housed in a national monument, according to Mr Wilson.

The Royal Armouries received £3.4 million running costs this financial year from the environment department, to be increased to £3.9 million next year. The rise, however, is to include funding for completing the installation of a branch museum at Fort Nelson, Portsmouth. The armouries receive no benefit from admission charges to the Tower, and money-raising opportunities open to other national museums, such as the hire of galleries for events, are prevented by the Tower's royal palace status.

Railway snow apology, and Weather, page 24

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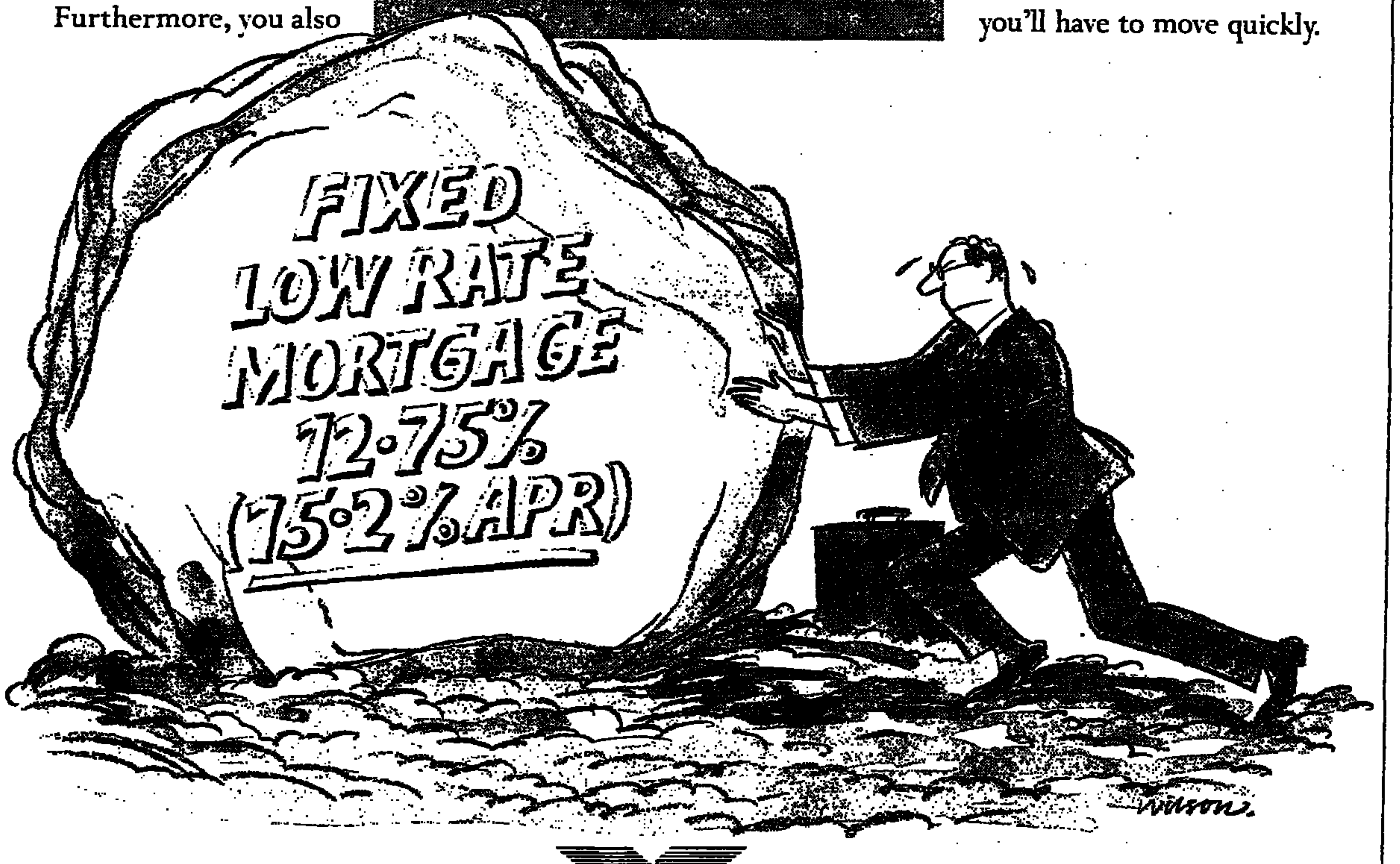

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Critics fail to dent impact of RPI as inflation indicator

Colin Narbrough reports on the ways we measure inflation

THE retail price index is the measure of inflation which catches the headlines, embarrasses the government, drives pay demands, and forms the basis of annual uprating of state benefits and pensions.

But it is far from the only calculation the Central Statistical Office undertakes to trace the rise of prices in the economy. Apart from the RPI, whose inclusion of volatile mortgage interest payments is regarded by many economists as a poor guide to inflation, there are, among others, a separate index for pensioners, a tax and price index, and several seeking to measure underlying inflation.

Within the monthly RPI data there is much detailed information, too, about how prices move within the various categories of household expenditure. Those range from the price of seasonal food to fuel and light, leisure and motoring.

For all the criticism levelled at the RPI over the years, the former measure of prices affecting the households of working people has become the main inflation figure for the government and the public alike. Today, it seeks to track the prices the average household has to pay for a basket of 600 separate goods and services through regular smapling in 180 towns across the country. As consumers' shopping habits change, the RPI's basket is amended and reweighted. More than 120,000 price quotations now go towards the index.

The shopping basket is selected from the annual family expenditure survey conducted by the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys, which consults a cross-section of 7,000 households.

To achieve a statistically representative standard, the measure excludes the spending patterns of the richest 4 per cent of households. It also disregards the poorest 14 per cent of households, mainly pensioners, who rely on state benefits for more than three quarters of their income.

For pensioners, a separate index is worked out each quarter to give the government an idea of what such households, which usually have low housing costs, have to pay for goods and services.

The RPI has faced criticism over its suspected tendency to exaggerate the swings in inflation. But repeated reviews by a special panel of experts has failed to produce fundamental changes to the measure.

For the government a serious concern has been the annual uprating of state pensions and benefits based on the October RPI. Last year, that coincided with the peak in annual inflation of 10.9 per cent. Some private-sector pay deals, especially in the car industry, have also been linked to the RPI, helping, in many economists opinion, to keep inflationary pressures higher than necessary.

A breakdown of the January RPI shows that the rise in food prices slowed to an annual 5.9 per cent while housing, the main household expenditure, though decelerating was still 17 per cent up on last year. The Gulf war has boosted prices for fuel and light to an annual 9.9 per cent.

RETAIL PRICES ANNUAL INCREASE

	Jan '91 %
All items	9.0
All items excluding housing	7.1
All items excluding mortgage interest payments	8.5
All items excluding food	9.5
Seasonal food	5.9
Non-seasonal food	4.2
Catering	9.1
Alcoholic drink	11.5
Tobacco	9.1
Housing	17.0
Fuel and light	9.9
Household goods	4.2
Household services	7.9
Clothing and footwear	3.1
Personal goods and services	7.3
Motoring expenditure	6.8
Fares/other travel costs	11.3
Leisure goods	4.4
Leisure services	9.3

Rising anger at 'falling' prices

By BILL FROST

THE latest fall in inflation was met with scepticism by shoppers at the Sainsbury supermarket in Nine Elms, south London yesterday.

Winifred Henderson, aged 63, said: "These figures do not mean anything. Prices keep on going up and up. Vegetables cost more than a month ago, so does fruit, meat, tea and coffee. If my son did not help us with the shopping bills my husband and I just could not eat."

Lee Martin, aged 33, said the RPI had been "massaged", the last month had seen prices rise steeply. "We are a vegetarian family with two children. Our food bill has been going up sharply these last few months ... The only item that costs less is recycled lavatory paper."

Dr Lilianne Field, an anaesthetist, said she had noticed increases in the price of nappies and baby food over the last few weeks. "Everything on my weekly shopping list is more expensive."

MICHAEL POWELL

With love from the USA: a marble Venus emerging from her shell receives initial attention yesterday at Crowther of Syon Lodge, west London, specialists in architectural antiques. The firm acquired the mid 19th-century figure from a mansion in Connecticut built for the Colgate family

Ministers press on with plan to make fathers pay

By JILL SHERMAN, SOCIAL SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

THE government has gone ahead with its plans to seek maintenance payments from absent fathers, virtually unchanged from autumn's white paper. The Child Support Bill published yesterday has swept aside critical responses from interested groups over the past two months.

The bill includes the controversial proposal of penalising women who fail to disclose the whereabouts of an absent father. It also fails to give details of the formula to be adopted or how the child support agency that is to be set up to recover payments instead of the courts, will operate, adding to concern by poverty groups that poor families will suffer.

It emerged yesterday that the agency, to be based outside London, will create more than 2,000 jobs when it opens in two years' time. About 2,500 social security staff dealing with maintenance payments will be transferred to it, to be joined by 2,200 new staff.

However, the bill makes clear that the courts will retain some jurisdiction in the long term in cases such as where step-children have existing legal rights, or for "top-up" awards above the normal upper limit of the formula.

The government wants to ensure that fathers pay child costs to single mothers that are now picked up in social security payments at a cost of over £1 billion. Only £150 million maintenance money is collected by the social security department.

Under the plans, fathers will have to pay up to half their disposable income in maintenance costs, and lone working mothers caring for children may have to contribute to maintenance.

In addition, lone mothers may lose 20 per cent of benefit if they fail to reveal the father's whereabouts. The government has said that exceptions would be made in cases of rape or incest, but has refused to list valid reasons for refusal in the bill. Benefit deductions may be made where there is "no good reason" for failing to co-operate, the bill says.

Single parents will be given incentives to work following changes to the benefit system that will allow a £15 maintenance disregard on family credit and increased eligibility for this benefit by reducing the number of hours worked to qualify for family credit from 24 to 16.

The National Council for One Parent families said that it regretted that much of the detail of the plans had been left to regulations. Sue Slipman, the council's director, said: "We are very disappointed that the government has not reconsidered its intention to remove benefit payments from families in which mothers do not wish to name fathers, as we believe this will cause great hardship to vulnerable children."

Announcing the bill, Tony Newton, the social security secretary, said that comments would be taken into account in "the practical implementation" of the arrangements.

BBC TV gets new managing director

By MELINDA WITTSTOCK, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

WILL Wyatt is to take over as managing director of BBC Television, replacing Sir Paul Fox, who retires in April, as the corporation's number three, the BBC announced yesterday.

Mr Wyatt, assistant managing director of television since 1988, takes over the BBC's biggest spending directorates, with overall responsibility for the whole of television, from programmes and scheduling to resources. He is third in rank to Michael Checkland, the director-general, and John Birt, Mr Checkland's deputy.

Mr Wyatt said yesterday he was determined to lead a television service "that is a beacon for talent and a place where the best people believe they can do their best work; and where the finest British programmes are made and the interests of the British public come first." He wanted to see a popular, imaginative, fair-minded and friendly television service which was also leaner and fitter.

Mr Wyatt, aged 49, joined BBC radio news in 1965 as a sub-editor after several years as a reporter on *The Sheffield Morning Telegraph*. He read history at Magdalen College, Oxford, and Emmanuel College, Cambridge, and moved into television production in 1968. He became head of television documentary features in 1981, moving up to head the BBC's features and documentaries group in 1987.

He was part of the "Funding the Future" team, whose report recommending £75 million annual cuts across the BBC by 1993 is now being implemented. He is also a director of the Broadcasting Audience Research Board.

Wyatt: planning friendly but leaner, fitter service

Amended bill seeks to defuse gay protest

By PHILIP WEBSTER
CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE government is changing the criminal justice bill to make plain that its powers to impose heavier sentences for some violent and sexual offenders do not discriminate against homosexuals.

The bill gives powers for courts to order prison sentences for violent and sexual offenders, even if the offence would not normally justify custody, if they consider it necessary to protect the public from serious harm.

Ministers have denied allegations by homosexual groups that the legislation would increase sentences for consenting homosexual behaviour. The amended bill will make plain that the heavier sentences relate to "protecting members of the public from death, or serious injury whether physical or psychological, occasioned by further such offences committed..."

The Home Office said yesterday: "This makes it quite clear that the provision is aimed at protecting potential victims from crimes such as rape or child sex abuse. By no stretch of the imagination could this provision be construed as authorising a heavier penalty than that justified by the seriousness of the offence in the case of an offender who did not represent this kind of danger. The commission of acts of gross indecency between consenting adults, for example, would quite clearly not come within this criterion."

The government is also removing from clause 25 of the bill three categories of offences that at present included among those that might attract heavier sentences. Those are living on the earnings of male prostitution, procuring others to commit homosexual acts, and homosexual acts between members of crews of merchant ships. Two other offences that have caused concern are to remain. Those are offences under 1956 legislation of indecency between men and solicitation by men.

Peter Tatchell, spokesman for Outrage, a homosexual action group, said yesterday that the campaign against clause 25 would continue with a demonstration in London today. He said that the government's amendments continued to rank consenting homosexual indecency and soliciting as serious sex crimes, on a par with child abuse. That was unacceptable.

Outcry as four more flee jail

Four more prisoners have broken out of Highpoint prison in Suffolk, said by the Home Office last year to be the scene of one in five prison escapes, and dubbed Britain's "leakiest" jail.

Police set up road blocks after the discovery at 3am of the disappearance of Robert Binns, aged 25, David Hammond, aged 26, David Elson, aged 27, and Stephen Richards, 23, from the former Battle of Britain air base near Haverhill. The authorities are still seeking three other prisoners who fled Highpoint earlier this month.

Local people are concerned about the escapes. A county councillor, Colin Jones, said: "Highpoint has become a national centre of ridicule and it's time the Home Office did something about it."

Cold death

James Kenroy, the Portsmouth coroner, yesterday recorded a verdict of death by self-neglect on Florence Pervin, aged 83, who died of hypothermia at home with £2,400 hidden away.

Caught on film

Roy Sargent Brake, aged 56, of Betws-y-Coed, Gwynned, was fined £300 yesterday after being filmed on video poaching in Snowdonia. He admitted failing to return to the water a salmon hooked other than in the mouth.

Car trick

Police are investigating the theft of a £27,000 Range Rover from a dealer at Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, by a man who took an unaccompanied test drive.

Sacking award

Martin Boyce, aged 41, who was sacked as an instructor at the Indefatigable sea training school, on Anglesey, is to receive £11,667 in an agreed settlement after an industrial tribunal decided his dismissal was unfair.

Timber posts

The Boulton and Paul timber company, of Lowestoft, Suffolk, is to create 50 jobs to cope with the installation of a £1 million machining line.

Horse accident

A woman received serious facial injuries when an escaped horse crashed into her car on the A27, near Chichester, West Sussex, yesterday.

Price increases

On Monday, the price of *The Daily Telegraph* rises from 35p to 40p during the week and from 40p to 45p on Saturday. *The Guardian* is increasing its price from 35p to 40p.

Tories' choice outrages Catholics

By KERRY GILL

A TORY prospective parliamentary candidate is expected to be dropped by the party after outraging Roman Catholics by his fundamental religious views, including his belief that Catholics cannot be classed as Christians.

The future of Andrew Price, aged 30, who works for the Trinitarian Bible Society in London, will be decided after an interview with the candidates' selection board later this month. Mr Price, a member of the Free Presbyterian Church of Scotland, was chosen by the local Conservative association last month to contest the Western Isles at the next general election.

Since his adoption, unconfirmed by the selection board, he has made statements based on his strict religious beliefs that have upset party members and the large Catholic community in the islands. He has said that he would support civil disobedience in an attempt to stop Sunday ferry sailings to and from the Western Isles. His latest remark, however, was seen as the last straw.

Mr Price yesterday confirmed that he believed that Roman Catholic teaching meant that the church's adherents could not be Christians. He said: "If Rome teaches that priests or saints or Mary can act as mediator, that is to be contrasted with the scriptures, which say there is only one mediator between God and man, the Christ, Jesus."

The Free Presbyterian Church excommunicated Lord Mackay of Clashfern, the Lord Chancellor, in 1989 for attending two Catholic requiem masses.

Lord Sanderson, chairman of the Scottish Conservatives, said he was unhappy with Mr Price and that the local Conservative association would be asked why he was adopted without the correct procedure. A party insider said Mr Price's remarks "may well affect his suitability for a constituency in Scotland. It seems unlikely that the board will select him."

Mr Price, whose mother came from North Uist, said: "I am a Christian. My beliefs I endeavour to base entirely on the word of God." He said he would support a threatened blockade by fishermen aimed at stopping Sunday ferry sailings, due to start in the spring.

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Labour gets its policies ready for early election

By PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Labour leadership is to produce a new campaigning document over the next few months to update and project the party's policies in readiness for a general election.

The exercise is being conducted by the review groups behind the radical overhaul of Labour's policies after the 1987 election. That involved the abandonment of unilateralism, acceptance of the market economy and wholehearted conversion to the European Community.

Party leaders emphasise that the objective is not to embark on a new policy review but to hone and project the policies that were agreed after the three-year review that culminated last year in the *Looking to the Future* document. The leadership is ready for an early general election. If the prime minister opts for May or June, Labour has the basis for its manifesto in *Looking to the Future*, which was itself a distillation of *Meet The Challenge Make the Change*, produced in 1989 after two years of the policy review.

However, party leaders accept the necessity continually to freshen up the presentation and projection of existing policies, particularly if the present parliament extends into 1992.

That will be done through a new conference document, to be presented to the autumn conference of the Labour party if John Major decides against a summer election. Work is proceeding on the document, which could go through the party machine in time for the May local elections.

The campaigning document will be a continuation of last year's exercise in which the party, having spent two years drawing up the new policies, turned to selling them and Neil Kinnock's leadership team to the country. It will set out Labour's goals and, in greater detail than before, how it believes they can be achieved.

However, it will also include key policy statements agreed since last year's document was produced. Among them are Labour's plans to replace the community charge with a revised system of rates, brought forward by Bryan Gould, the shadow environment secretary, after months of internal argument, the proposals for a new system of local and regional government approved by the policy group headed by Roy Hattersley, the deputy leader, two weeks ago, and the new training legislation proposed last week by Tony Blair, the shadow employment secretary.

Labour's projection of its policies through the summer and autumn, if there is no election this year, will be accompanied by an attack on what it describes as the failure of Conservative policies which have resulted in a second recession and unemployment rising fast again.

A senior party strategist said: "Our policy platform is agreed. We are no longer looking over our shoulders at what the party might be thinking.

"We are selling our own policies and on the attack against the government."

Spending on Welsh tops UK average

By ROBIN OAKLEY
POLITICAL EDITOR

WELSH Office spending in 1991-2 will be £4,920 million, an increase of 10 per cent on the previous year, the department's report said yesterday.

If expenditure falling within other departments' budgets is included, spending in Wales in 1989-90 was £2,596 per head, nearly 7 per cent higher than the United Kingdom average of £2,431 per head. The Welsh secretary is responsible for spending on tourism, roads and transport, housing and environmental services, education, the arts, health and personal social services.

Central government support for Welsh local authorities in 1991-2 will total £2,437 million and central government spending £2,486 million. Of that total health and personal social services will get £1,664 million (up 34 per cent over the previous year); industry, energy, trade and employment £189 million; roads £169 million; housing £149 million; agriculture, fisheries and food £119 million; environmental services £78 million; other public services £59 million; and other items £60 million.

● Government expenditure in Northern Ireland is planned to rise from £6,422 million for 1991-2 to £7,170 million in 1993-4 (Edward Gorman writes).

Among priority tasks are the prepartion of a medium-term strategy for the prison service, encouraging owner occupation by selling 2,750 council houses in 1991-2, and reducing energy consumption in the public sector by 15 per cent by 1994-5.

Making life harder for badger baiters

Michael Hornsby considers the future for badgers in the light of a bill to protect their sets

A LABOUR backbencher's bill to give further protection to badgers was given a second reading in the Commons yesterday. Sponsored by Roy Hughes, MP for Newport East, it would make it a criminal act to dig up or damage badger sets.

The British badger (*meles meles*) is a peaceable and gregarious animal of nocturnal habits that spends most of its time burrowing and digging. When attacked, however, it fights fiercely.

That is why for centuries some people have taken a cruel delight in catching badgers and pitting them against packs of dogs. Life may soon become harder for the badger-baiters and diggers after the unopposed passage of Mr Hughes's bill, which would give legal protection to badgers' sets, the extensive burrow systems in which the animals live in clan-like groups. Farmers and foxhunters, however, are worried that the bill could be unreasonably restrictive.

Badgers have been protected by law since the Badgers Act of 1973. The loophole in the act has been that it does not protect the sets. Diggers and baiters have often been able to escape prosecution by claiming they were digging for foxes, which is legal.

"Badgers are not rare enough to qualify as an endangered species," Dr Don Jefferies, senior mammal ecologist at the Nature Conservancy Council (NCC), said yesterday."

A Nature Conservancy Council survey last month estimated that there were about 250,000 adult badgers in about 43,000 clan groups in Britain. They are most prolific in the South-West. About 105,000 cubs are born each year. Digging, most rife in northern counties, is blamed for the deaths of between 9,000 and 10,000 badgers a year.

Four times that number are killed by cars. Slightly more than 700 badgers, nearly all in the South-West, are also trapped and shot each year by agriculture ministry veterinary officers to prevent them spreading tuberculosis to cattle. Less than 20 per cent of slaughtered badgers turn out to have TB, however.

A badger's set usually consists of a main set surrounded by an outlying network of tunnels and burrows, often used by rabbits and foxes. The NCC found a high level of human disturbance of sets, with the main sets, where the badgers mostly live, the worst affected: 15.7 per cent of all those sets had been blocked and 10.5 per cent had been dug.

A set is defined as "any structure or place occupied or used by a badger for shelter or protection". Sir Nicholas Bonsor, chairman of the British Field Sports Society, said: "While some sets are well known and are obviously occupied, badgers can be found in a whole variety of places which are not obviously sets. Under present proposals anyone who innocently interfered with these could face the risk of prosecution."

An inquisitive badger seen in an Essex garden at night

Ribble Valley by-election

Hattersley mocks 'inadequate' PM

By RONALD FAUX

JOHN Major has sleepwalked Britain into the biggest slump for a decade, Roy Hattersley, the deputy Labour leader, said yesterday as campaigning began in the Ribble Valley by-election.

In a sharp personal attack, Mr Hattersley said that the policies pursued by the prime minister when he was Chancellor of the Exchequer and chief secretary to the Treasury were now exposed as diasastrous errors. Mr Major had neither the will nor the ability to rectify his mistakes, and wished for nothing more than to cut a fine figure in the House of Commons.

Hattersley: Britain led by "economic masochist"

"Not for him the conviction politics of his predecessor. His only interest is surviving question time in the House of Commons, which cruelly exposes his inadequacies," Mr Hattersley said.

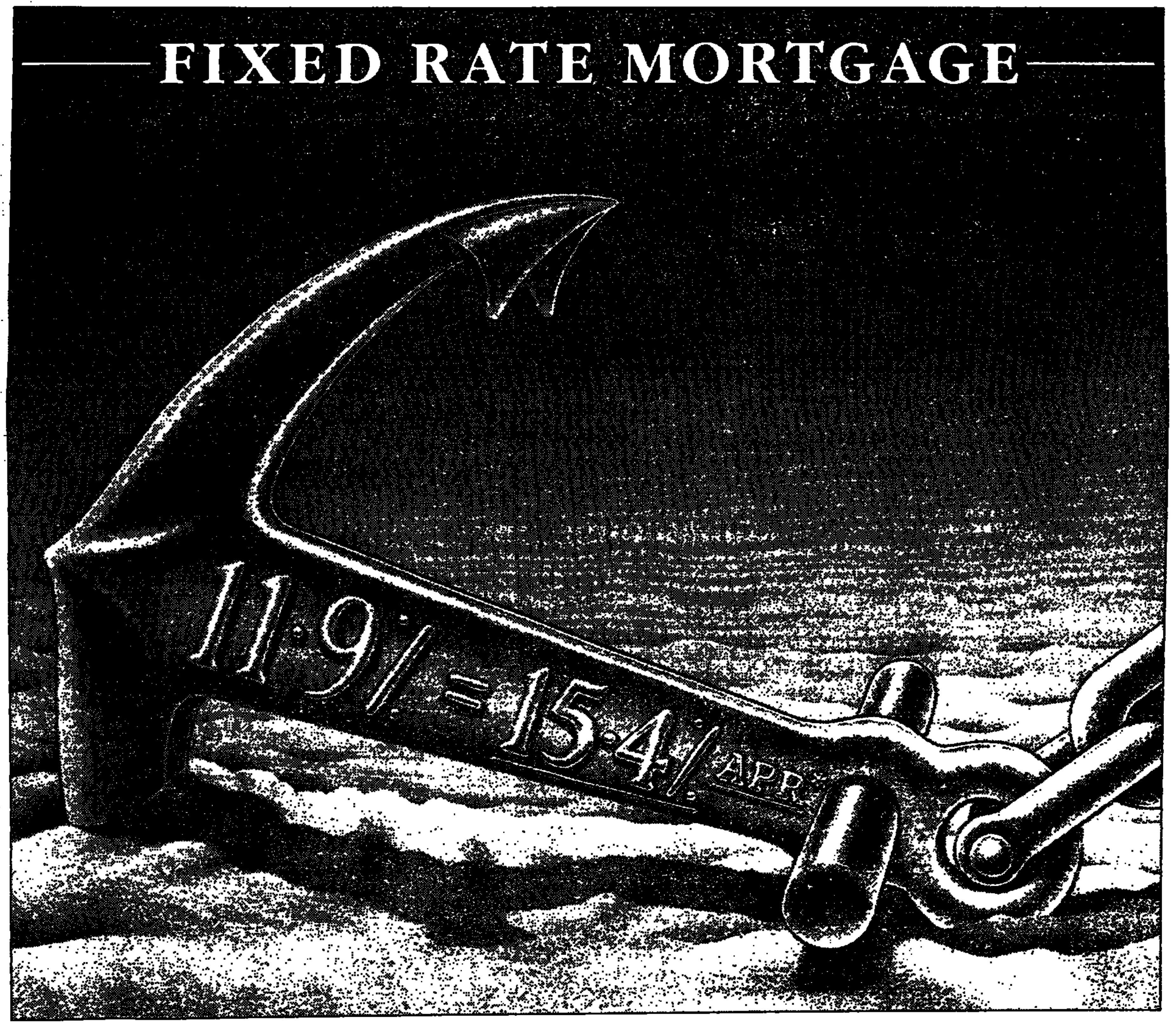
His speech at Clitheroe launched Josie Farrington, a county councillor, as Labour's candidate for the rural Lancashire seat. She faces Nigel Evans, defending the 19,528 Conservative majority held by David Waddington, whose elevation to the Lords caused the contest. The Liberal Democrat candidate is Michael Carr.

No other industrialised nation faced such a slump, Mr Hattersley went on. Only in Britain was the government encouraging the recession by the pursuit of high interest rates and the slow-down in manufacturing. Only Britain was led by a prime minster who believed "if it isn't hurting, it isn't working". Mr Major was "a disciple of economic masochism" who still refused to pledge the abolition of the poll tax.

Mr Waddington was present to support Mr Evans, a Welshman. Choosing an outsider has irked some local Tories, but Mr Waddington dismissed "ill informed and silly comments" about the selection. "There has been a tradition of adopting people from outside the area who have then been great and enthusiastic fighters for the area."

The Liberal Democrats have brought their formidable Eastbourne team, complete with computers, to support Mr Carr, a teacher brought up in the Ribble Valley who has fought the seat twice as the Alliance candidate.

Nominations close in six days. So far 11 contenders, including two independent Conservatives and an independent Liberal, have said that they intend to stand in the contest on March 7.



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Bizarre turns in Winnie Mandela trial put judicial system in the dock

Seipei: shifted blame for son's murder to "racist regime"

From GAVIN BELL IN JOHANNESBURG

HOVERING beside Winnie Mandela and three others in the dock at the supreme court in Johannesburg this week was a fifth shadowy figure: the South African judicial system itself.

Whatever the substance of allegations against Mrs Mandela, the image of the judiciary has been tarnished by the state's apparent inability or unwillingness to protect key witnesses from brazen and brutal intimidation. Before grinding to a premature halt, the proceedings raised more questions than they answered.

Why did 18 months elapse before Mrs Mandela was charged with the alleged offences? Are leading political figures in the "new" South Africa above the law? In a belated attempt to restore faith in the system, the government has started reviewing legislation to provide more effective protection for witnesses. Ironically, it may result in the imposition of measures deemed repressive by the anti-apartheid movement.

Kobie Coetsee, the justice minister, made the point when he announced the review on Thursday. "Provisions for protective custody have in the past been viciously attacked as unfair, and many a time people have demanded their repeal. It is clear that there is a change of heart, which is to be welcomed."

Dave Dalling, the liberal Democratic Party spokesman on justice, points out that more than 3,000 people have died in political violence in recent years and only a handful of trials have taken place, largely because of intimidation. The state's abysmal record in this regard threatens the judicial system with collapse, he says.

Despite far-reaching political and social reforms, the judicial system has changed little since Mrs Mandela's husband, Nelson, railed against "white man's justice" at his treason trial 30 years ago. There are many forms of justice in South Africa, ranging from Roman-Dutch law dispensed by an entirely white bench to so-called people's courts in black communities which summarily condemn elderly women to death for alleged witchcraft and others to flogging and worse for common criminal offences.

Enforcing the first and turning a blind eye to the second is an undermanned police force tainted by thugs given to inflicting grievous bodily harm on supposed suspects. Above them all is a tricameral parliament from which blacks are excluded. No court may question the validity of any law passed by this racist institution. Mr Justice Trengove, a former appeal court judge, went to the heart of the matter two years ago when he said the sooner the unqualified sovereignty of parliament was done away with, the better.

Both the government and the African National Congress subscribe to the supremacy of an independent judiciary in a post-apartheid era, supported by a bill of rights enshrined in a new constitution. In the meantime, both are bound by an anachronistic system riddled with deficiencies. The absence of black judges is not entirely due to economic and educational deprivation which has produced only three black senior counsel. There is political resistance to a multiracial bench from those aspiring to sit on it. Justice Moloto of the Black Lawyers' Association says: "Black judges would still be called in to administer laws they had no part in making, and about 90 per cent of these laws are unjust. They would be cogs in the machinery of their own oppression."

Mrs Mandela's trial has also raised questions about the ANC's commitment to justice. Shortly after three of its members were implicated in the abduction of a key witness, it produced the mother of a youth murdered by one of Mrs Mandela's bodyguards at a stage-managed press conference to display new-found solidarity with the ANC. Mananki Seipei, surrounded by ANC activists, duly shifted the blame for her son's death from Mrs Mandela to the "racist regime" in a statement which conflicted sharply with previous reported comments in which she expressed bitterness about the ANC.

This absurd pantomime, dangerously close to infringing the *sub judice* rule (Mrs Seipei is a witness in the Mandela trial), followed the arrogant behaviour of ANC "marshals" who strutted around the court this week in makeshift military fatigues, abusing journalists and other observers.

● **Jail nostalgia:** Mr Mandela said he missed some of the prison officials who guarded him during his 27 years in jail and had kept in touch with them since his release. "Although the policy itself was bad ... there were warders and officials who really stood out in their concern for us, whose views were that we were human beings," he told the anti-apartheid weekly, *New Nation*. *(Reuter)*

Conservative net tightens in campaign to oust Yeltsin

From MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

CONSERVATIVE opposition groups tried yesterday to force an emergency meeting of the full Russian parliament with a view to engineering the removal of Boris Yeltsin, the president of the Russian Federation. Their attempt, backed by a petition with nearly 200 signatures, was the latest move in a virulent campaign against the Russian leader designed to exclude him from office.

The conservative challenge came a day after the Russian parliament decided not to approve a nationwide agreement to introduce price increases on most goods. Mr Yeltsin had refused to recommend the draft agreement, arguing that it would encourage people to blame the republic leadership, rather than the central government, for what will be a deeply unpopular measure.

Evidence that the net is tightening around Mr Yeltsin has grown over the past week, after a month of rabid anti-Yeltsin propaganda in the conservative press. On Wednesday, the last remaining member of his original economic team, Gennadi Filshin, resigned after revelations about shady financial dealings.

His resignation came in the wake of a sensational interview given by Valentin Pavlov, the new Soviet prime minister, in which he accused unspecified forces of plotting to destabilise the Soviet economy with the help of certain Soviet banking institutions and private Western banks. His scarcely credible accusations claimed that the beneficiaries of the alleged plot would have been "supporters of rapid privatisation" — in other words, those like Mr Yeltsin who back radical economic reform.

On Thursday the Moscow daily newspaper, *Moskovskaya Pravda*, run by the city's Communist party, reprinted Mr Pavlov's interview in full. The republication of an interview, already published elsewhere, was a clear signal that the Moscow Communist party wanted to bring it to wider notice.

This week's issue of the Soviet Communist party's journal entitled — without intended irony — *Glasnost* made sure that the allegations of corruption and criminality did not stop at Mr Filshin. The magazine quoted someone described as a "senior Moscow criminal investigator" as saying that both Mr Yeltsin and Ivan Silayev, his prime minister, employed members of the so-called Chechen mafia as part of their bodyguard.

The Chechens, an ethnic group from the north Caucasus, are frequently accused of dominating the ruthless Moscow mafia, but no one has produced convincing evidence that a mafia-like structure actually exists. Some suspect that it has been invented to distract attention from crime endemic in state agencies.

Yesterday's insistent call for an emergency meeting of the full Russian parliament suggests that the conservatives think they are now strong enough to engineer Mr Yeltsin's downfall. A full parliament, the Congress of People's Deputies, is the only body which can oust the republic's president.

But they must act before March 17, the day set for the nationwide referendum on the future of the Soviet Union. Voters in the Russian Federation will then also decide on establishing a full executive presidency which would, if approved, strengthen Mr Yeltsin's mandate and make his removal more difficult. The date mooted for the emergency congress is February 25.

Havel plan to open embassy in Vilnius

By OUR FOREIGN STAFF

PRESIDENT Havel of Czechoslovakia said yesterday that he planned to open a mission in the Soviet republic of Lithuania that would deal with political, economic, cultural and other information and link the foreign ministries of the two countries.

The announcement came as the leaders of Hungary, Poland and Czechoslovakia gathered to sign agreements strengthening their ties within the new political and economic landscape of Eastern Europe. The summit was called to formalise co-operation among the three neighbouring countries in trade, a sector that for decades was controlled by membership in the Soviet-dominated Comecon trade bloc.

The meeting in Visegrad, Hungary, was held between the three presidents and their three prime ministers to achieve their "total integration into the European political, economic, security and legislative order".

President Goncz and Joszef Antall of Hungary, President Havel and Marian Calfa of Czechoslovakia, and Lech Walesa, the Polish president, and Jan Krzysztof Bielecki, his prime minister, met to discuss regional security issues and to sign two declarations that will allow the three former communist countries to co-operate as they work to establish stable democratic institutions.

Mr Antall emphasised that the alliance would not be anti-Soviet: "This is not directed against any country which is not a member". He said Hungary would work for closer co-operation with the parliamentary committee of Lithuania and consider other forms of diplomatic co-operation. The meeting would also serve to hasten European unity. "The ... summit can help co-ordinate our political and economic policies so that all three can integrate into European organisation more smoothly," he said.

Mr Havel said that Prague supports the legal authorities in the defiant Soviet Baltic republics. Mr Walesa, on the other hand, said only that Poland was ready to open missions where they might be necessary, but the issue was not under discussion in Warsaw.

The Visegrad alliance comes only days before a meeting in Budapest to discuss the dissolution of Comecon and the winding up of the Warsaw Pact.

President Gorbachev has offered to wind up the military elements of the pact two months earlier than the April 1 deadline set by Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Poland.

Kosovo anguish: women in the troubled region of Yugoslavia mourning a villager shot by Yugoslav troops during a nationalist demonstration. The photograph, entitled *Mourning in Kosovo*, won the World Press Photo Contest for 1990 and was taken by a French photographer, Georges Marillon

Bulgarian leader seeks British aid

From TIM JUDAH IN SOFIA

PRESIDENT Zhelev's visit to Britain, which begins today, will have none of the pomp and circumstance which surrounded the last visit by a Bulgarian head of state, that of King Boris in 1936.

At present it would hardly be appropriate. President Zhelev comes to Britain looking for economic support and emergency aid for his bankrupt Balkan country, which he feels has been "forgotten and overlooked" by the West.

He made it clear that one of his most urgent tasks was to remind Britain of Bulgaria's existence and to demand that it be treated in the same way as Czechoslovakia and Hungary, with which its policies are now "identical", rather than Romania with which his country was usually "lumped".

President Zhelev, a former dissident, said that he had no fears that hardline communists would be encouraged to take action by a conservative resurgence in the Soviet Union and recent events in Lithuania. "Our change is too deep and far-reaching for that," he said. The president also said he expected trials would be held over the "poisoned umbrella" murder of Georgi Markov, the exiled Bulgarian writer, in London in 1978. He would only say "wait and see" when asked if the order for the killing came from the top of the former communist government headed by Todor Zhivkov.

Referring to the Gulf conflict, President Zhelev said that Bulgaria had received "no response" from Saudi Arabia over its offers of an anti-chemical warfare unit and medical personnel to help the anti-Iraq coalition, but he said that negotiations with the United States were under way over the offers. President Zhelev, aged 55, personifies the reasons why Bulgaria has been forgotten. He is small, softly spoken and modest, as the continued living in his old flat, frequent power cuts notwithstanding, reveals. He was a dissident philosopher during the Zhivkov years but never jailed.

From 1988 Dr Zhelev became openly involved in dissident activity, and after the collapse of orthodox communism in Bulgaria in November 1989 he emerged as leader of a varied opposition coalition called the Union of Democratic Forces.

For the next year Bulgarian politicians argued and economic reforms were delayed. However, in that time, the communists were re-elected to power as the Socialist party and Dr Zhelev, after months of political paralysis, was elected president by the parliament. On December 20 last year a coalition government was formed and economic reforms began to be implemented two weeks ago.

In an effort to convince the West that Bulgaria deserves help and recognition, President Zhelev said that he will emphasise that the country's economic reform, which has increased prices sixfold, is a "shock therapy par excellence". He also said that he would be telling Britain that, despite Bulgaria's scrupulous observance of the United Nations sanctions against Iraq, which have cost the country dear, "the fact is that we have not been compensated as envisaged by the UN resolutions. We hope the British government will support us and put in a good word for us with the European Community and the Group of 24 (Western countries helping Eastern Europe)", he said.

Zhelev: believes his country is overlooked by the West

The Gulf war has aggravated Bulgaria's economic plight. Sanctions have meant that it has had to forgo $1.8 billion (£900 million) of Iraqi debt due to be repaid in oil. The collapse of the eastern bloc trading system, Comecon, has also meant the loss of cheap Soviet oil and private motorists are restricted to a monthly ration of a seven gallons. An accumulated foreign debt of $11 billion, which Bulgaria cannot pay, has also ended all credit.

However, President Zhelev said that he hoped that this restriction would be lifted. "We need several hundred million dollars urgently to give a boost to the economy and I hope the West will look favourably on our request now that we have signed a letter of intent with the IMF."

President Zhelev said despite the recent price increases he felt "most people realise that this is the right path to follow. The question is how much they can endure. I hope and pray that there will be no demonstration or violence, because this is the only way. Unrest would torpedo our reform and nothing should stop them." He said because economic reforms were under way it was "unrealistic" to hold a general election in May as envisaged by the terms of the coalition government agreement.

Deadlock in talks to find Gatt formula

Brussels — Negotiations between the European Community and America, aimed at finding a formula which could restart world trade talks, have been stalled by continuing disputes over farm subsidies *(George Brock writes)*.

Arthur Dunkel, the director-general of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt), will hold discussions next week in Geneva with both sides to see if he can break the deadlock.

A diplomatic formula is now required which will allow negotiators to restart. Ten days of discussions between Carla Hills, the American special trade representative, and Frans Andriessen, the European commissioner for external relations, have failed so far. If Mr Dunkel succeeds, talks would not begin for at least another week.

Surprise ceasefire

San Salvador — A secret UN ceasefire proposal, which would divide the country into guerrilla and army zones, appears to have wrongfooted the Salvadorean government and its American backers. Since UN mediated negotiations began nine months ago, government and US officials have accused left-wing rebels of refusing to sign a ceasefire. The rebels have now agreed to sign it.

Jailhouse rocked

Málaga — A car bomb exploded outside a prison here, slightly injuring four people and badly damaging the prison and neighbouring houses. Spanish police said the blast appeared to be aimed at paramilitary civil guardsmen. Although no one has claimed responsibility, police blamed it on Eta Basque guerrillas. *(Reuter)*

Peace mission

Islamabad — A high-ranking Soviet delegation met Afghan Mujahidin leaders here as Moscow for the first time opened direct talks with the resistance groups to find a settlement to the Afghan conflict. Meetings between the two sides last year were confined to the issue of Soviet prisoners of war.

Airport closed

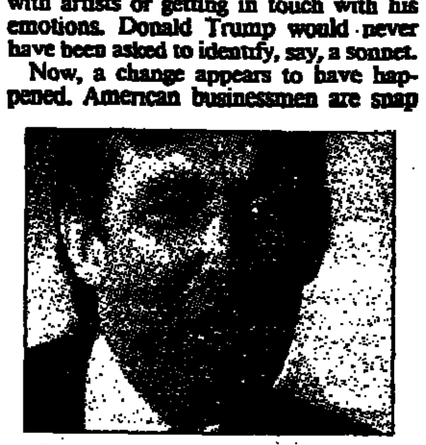
Funchal, Madeira Island — Authorities closed Madeira's international airport after an Air Portugal jetliner carrying 80 passengers skidded across the runway. The Boeing 736-200 from Lisbon landed safely but part of the undercarriage collapsed as the plane lost control and came to rest on one of its engines. *(AP)*

NEW YORK NOTEBOOK by Charles Bremner

Goddess of poetry awarded a seat on the board

BACK in the 1980s, the business heroes of the United States were sleek and steely masters of the deal, champions of ruthless power play and exponents of martial metaphor. J.R. Ewing, for example, did not win his millions and his mistresses by hobnobbing with artists or getting in touch with his emotions. Donald Trump would never have been asked to identify, say, a sonnet.

Now, a change appears to have happened. American businessmen are snapping up a book called *Love and Profit: the Art of Caring Leadership*, by James Autry. His point is that "the old, kick-ass way of managing" is counter-productive. Bosses will get much better results by showing they are "engaging, warm, supportive human beings", says Mr Autry, who is president of a big magazine company.



Trump: an artist in business but not attracted to the muses

But that is not all. Mr Autry writes poetry and persuaded other bards of the boardroom to join him in celebrating the joy and pain of executive life. The results are published in *Love and Profit*.

We are not talking about the upbeat rhymes of salesmen's gatherings. Nor is their verse the triumphant doggerel of earlier "vocational poets". Mr Autry and his fellow "business poets" plumb the darker depths of the soul. Take, for example, his *On Firing a Salesman*, which starts: "It's like a little murder, taking his life, his reason for getting on the train ..."

The muses are touching the business world in other ways, too. Managers are resorting to "corporate comedy" to lighten their relations with subordinates and reinforce that human touch. Some "kick-ass" types are noting that their Japanese rivals do not apparently share a taste in poetry and comedy. "Henry Ford must be turning in his grave," said one.

Name the most famous underground line in the world. Britons might cite the Piccadilly line, Parisians might go for the Neuilly-Vincennes track, as celebrated by Yves Montand, but Americans and jazz lovers everywhere would say the A Train.

In the 1940s, the A Train entered folklore, zooming up to Manhattan from Brooklyn like a rocket, taking the evening crowds to the ballrooms of Harlem in its high renaissance. And of course, it gave its name to *Take the A Train*, the signature tune of Duke Ellington's band.

Harlem has long since wilted, but the A Train has continued to clatter uptown day and night. Now, however, the subway authority has decided that the express should disappear, along with some others, as part of an exercise aimed at saving a paltry $4 million (£2 million) a year.

A coalition of commuters, historians, musicians and politicians are demanding life for the A Train. "Nobody is going to sing about the Q Train," said one critic.

Times are not easy in Broadway. Ticket sales have slumped and producers are finding it ever harder to come up with the huge sums needed to stage any full-scale musical.

The demise this month of *Shogun*, the most expensive production ever, after only three months has added to the jitters. So nervous are the promoters that Cameron Mackintosh's team is reported to be rewriting chunks of *Miss Saigon* before its Broadway opening next month to dilute what could be interpreted as its "anti-American" sentiments. And other producers are scrambling to inject a more upbeat mood into their shows.

The biggest case is *Annie 2*. A first version of a follow-up to the 1977 megahit about the red-haired orphan crashed last year before it reached Broadway. This week the producers staged a "backers' audition" for a rewritten version. "This is a happy, upbeat, family show, a new and improved and thoroughly delightful *Annie 2*," said the producers. If they get the money, the show will go on in the autumn.

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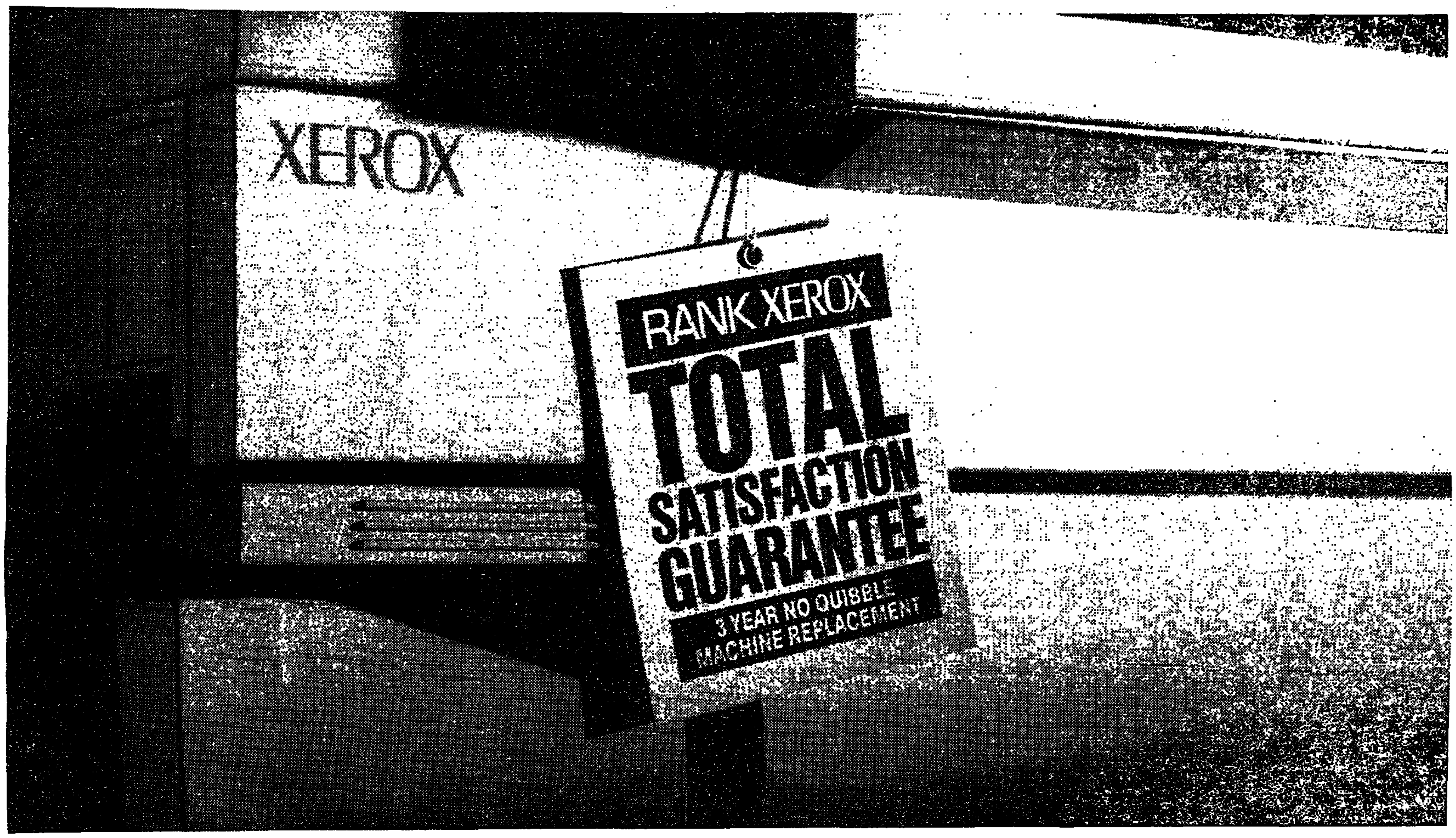

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Churches feel war strain

Clifford Longley

The Pope has said the Gulf war is wrong and should be stopped immediately. The Vatican's welcome of Iraq's peace proposals yesterday was about the warmest in the western hemisphere.

The Archbishop of Canterbury-designate, George Carey, was not quite so anti-war in an interview with *The Sydney Morning Herald* last week, but his willingness to condone the Gulf campaign was heavily qualified. Although Cardinal Basil Hume, Archbishop of Westminster, has been more cautious than either of them, church support for the war has been growing ever more tentative. Yesterday's developments may strain it beyond its limits.

Given the proportion of American soldiers who are Roman Catholic — getting on for a third — the American government will be more worried by the *Pope than by* Dr Carey. The British government will worry more about Dr Carey because it will be well aware of the growing anti-war groundswell in all the British churches which look to him for moral guidance.

On Monday leading members of the major British denominations are to launch a "Christian Coalition for Peace in the Gulf". One churchman said that with their hearts all Christians would be behind it, even if with their heads some would be more cautious.

In Britain, Cardinal Hume has tended to neutralise the impact of the *Pope's position* by defending Britain's role in the conflict, although manifestly with great anguish.

In his interview, Dr Carey clearly shares these hesitations, saying of the Gulf war: "I *would not want to say it is just.* People are getting hurt, including civilian populations." In his comments to 300 Australian MPs earlier, he recalled that the Bible "warns us against an easy peace", but he hoped the conflict might become a catalyst for dealing with the seemingly intractable problem of the Palestinians.

The position taken by all three church leaders cannot be resolved into black and white. The press *has picked on the "just war" tag as* the acid test of where a churchman stands, reasonably enough as it is a venerable Christian doctrine. But the press has tended not to notice an increasing inclination to find the just-war theory unsatisfactory. Dr Carey, in his Australian interview, was the most explicit. He would not go further than to talk of a "justifiable" war, refusing to call it just. He appeared to mean that while others may be able to "justify" participation in the war, he personally could not.

Leading churchmen are having trouble with the just-war theory because it seems to suggest that any war which qualifies as just is a moral obligation, a war that must be fought. Although the term is usually applied that way, it is much safer to use the test negatively, to decide which wars are certainly immoral, passing no judgment on the rest.

Like the then Archbishop of Canterbury, Robert Runcie, the Pope was very clear last August that Iraq's invasion of Kuwait was "a grave violation of international law, of the UN Charter, and of the ethical principles of relations between states". And on the eve of the opening of the air campaign in January, he appealed to Iraq to withdraw. Afterwards he called on both sides to desist immediately and said the allied campaign did not meet the "just-war" criteria.

To the annoyance of Israel and of Italian Jews, the Pope has *also* unhesitatingly accepted the "linkage" between the Gulf war and the Palestinian question, urging, like Dr Carey, a peace conference to resolve both. One unexpected outcome of his position has been a new warmth between the Vatican and the Italian Communist party, and an unprecedented chilliness between the Vatican and the Christian Democracts.

On television on Wednesday, *and again in an article in The Tablet* yesterday, Cardinal Hume distanced himself from the sharpest implication of the Pope's position — that the allied campaign is morally wrong. "When for instance a young married woman with two children worrying about her husband in the Gulf asks me directly: 'Is my husband acting immorally by being involved in the war?' and adds: 'yes or no?' my answer is 'no'," he said. He went on to defend his position as being in accordance with the teachings of the Second Vatican Council.

> ‘Churchmen are having trouble with the just-war idea: it suggests that any war which qualifies becomes a moral obligation’

There is a great deal of overlap between the *Pope*, Dr Carey and the cardinal, and the extent of that consensus would even include the White House, 10 Downing Street, and the allied servicemen.

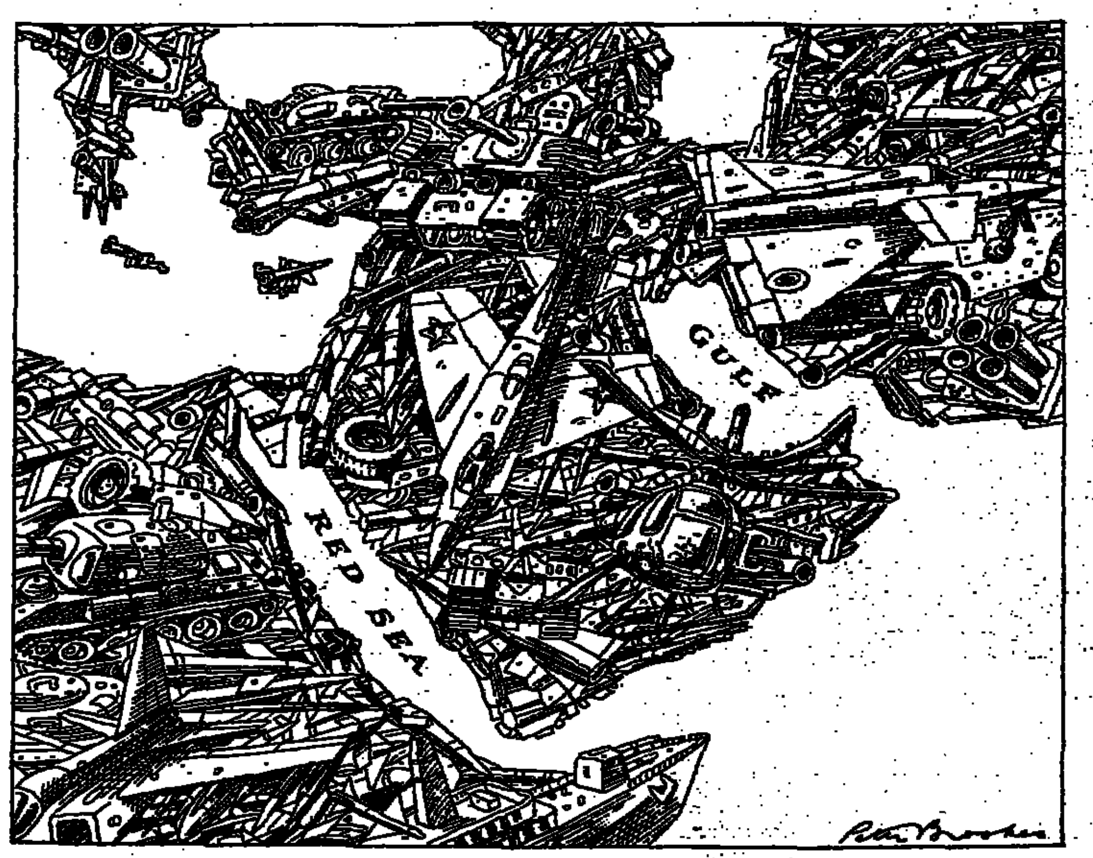
To summarise recent papal utterances: war is a *tragedy*; it "*cannot be an adequate means for solving problems*"; it represents a moral defeat for international law and UN principles, and civilian casualties are deplorable; on the other hand, the occupation of Kuwait by Iraq is unacceptable.

The apparent difference between the Pope's position and that of other churchmen can be resolved once it is recognised that they are addressing different audiences.

While Dr Carey was giving good answers to an Australian journalist, and Cardinal Hume was talking to a mother of two (or pretending he was, to make his point), the Pope regards himself, not without reason, as speaking directly to all the principal parties at once. He expects to be listened to in Baghdad and Amman as well as London, Cairo and Washington (and Baghdad's tendency to quote him selectively proves that he is heard there).

If an English or Italian churchman says "Stop the war immediately", he must want Britain or Italy to leave the alliance, for that is the only country he can influence. Frankly, Saddam is not listening. But when the Pope, standing above national interests, tells both sides at once to stop the war, he is urging an immediate ceasefire by the allies *and* a simultaneous Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait, not one step without the other.

Is Saddam doing a Galtieri?



Anthony Parsons believes Iraq is playing for time — and urges an arms-limitation drive when the war does end

For a brief moment yesterday morning it seemed that the Iraqis had decided to withdraw from Kuwait on the sole condition that military action against them should cease. Then came the familiar kite's tail of linkages — Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories, Syrian withdrawal from Lebanon, American withdrawal from Arabia and many more, including only a qualified restoration of Kuwaiti sovereignty.

Unless these conditions are designed for Iraqi public opinion and withdrawal actually starts without further reference to them, we must assume that the Baghdad announcement is no more than a propaganda ploy. The timing is right. Saddam is capitalising on the wave of emotion generated by the civilian casualties caused by the bombing of the Baghdad air raid shelter. Peace probes are afoot from Tehran and Moscow. The UN security council is meeting. What better moment could there be to sow confusion within the coalition and to bring pressure to bear on its leaders to call a halt to the bombing and to postpone the land offensive?

People have already suggested to me that the Baghdad initiative should be explored: perhaps we should get round a table now that, *for the first time, it has uttered the* word withdrawal.

This last point is of course the only novelty, and it is well designed to attract support throughout the Arab world and elsewhere, even to intrigue the coalition leaders. I am sceptical. My mind goes back to the Falklands campaign which, albeit on a much smaller scale, had many of the characteristics of the Gulf war.

I have felt for some weeks that Saddam Hussein is in the grip of what I call the Galtieri syndrome. It was only after the Falklands conflict was over that evidence emerged from the Argentine side that, having taken the plunge, the Galtieri junta had no intention of withdrawing peacefully. All our painstaking efforts to achieve this were foredoomed. We suspected as much at the time, but could not be sure.

Right up to the end, General Galtieri made great efforts to convince the international community that the identity of aggressor and victim was not as they had thought at the outset — that Argentina was the victim and Britain the aggressor. As fighting intensified, this conjuring trick began to take effect, as is happening today with Iraq and Kuwait. Then Galtieri brought maximum pressure to bear for a ceasefire linked to vague promises, not to unqualified withdrawal. His objective was to mire us down in interminable negotiations while his forces remained on the islands and international opinion turned his way.

If Saddam is, however unconsciously, modelling himself on Galtieri, he would do well to consider the final outcome. The British government refused to be distracted by siren songs calling for restraint, pauses, negotiations to test Argentine flexibility. Once convinced that the last mile had been traversed in search of a peaceful withdrawal, the objective of liberating the islands was resolutely and successfully pursued.

I believe that the allied response to Saddam's latest move will be comparably firm, that the campaign for the liberation of Kuwait will continue unchecked, and that there will be no serious cracks in the coalition, particularly where it matters most — Saudi Arabia and the *Gulf states. I also* permit myself to hope that, when Kuwait is liberated, if not before, Saddam and his Revolutionary Command Council will be removed from power in Iraq as comprehensively as General Galtieri and the junta were toppled in Argentina.

Governments in the region, as well as Washington, London and *other European capitals*, are already giving thought to the need to create security structures in the Gulf area to prevent any future aggression against small and defenceless states.

In the short term much will depend on how the war ends. If Saddam is overthrown and replaced by a genuinely peaceful government, it will not be so necessary to maintain powerful deterrent forces, whether or not under the *aegis of the UN*, in Kuwait and north-east Saudi Arabia to deter another Iraqi thrust.

Whatever happens, one thing is essential. After Kuwait is liberated, something must be done to halt and reverse the Middle East arms race. When I left our embassy in Baghdad 37 years ago, the total Iraqi tank inventory was 12 obsolete British tanks; its air force consisted of 12 ancient British fighters.

Those were the halcyon days of the Tripartite Declaration of 1950 under which Britain, France and America, the only major arms suppliers, had agreed to exercise restraint in exports to the area. This agreement collapsed when Egypt bought Russian arms in 1955, triggering an arms sales spree from one end of the Middle East to the other. The combination of East/West competition, financial and industrial gain and oil wealth reached a crescendo in the 1970s and 1980s. Today it is commonplace for Middle Eastern countries with small populations to have far more battle tanks and combat aircraft than, for example, Britain or France. I worked out recently that there is one heavy *tank per* 2,000 head of population in the Middle East.

The Kuwait crisis has brought home to governments in the industrialised world that, militarily, *Saddam is their* creation and that Iraq is by no means the only state in the region which is saturated with weaponry. Thirty years ago, only a little more than one British brigade was needed to deter an Iraqi threat to Kuwait. Now it has taken half the world.

Many people will say it is no use talking about arms control until the Arab-Israeli dispute is peacefully solved. I cannot accept that. After the shock of the Gulf war, could not arms control and disarmament be a subject on which Arabs and Israelis find common ground, making this a lead-in to discussion of peace and a solution to the Palestine problem? Could not all the major arms exporting countries get together again in the spirit of the 1950 declaration and agree to exercise restraint?

Meanwhile I can only hope that my scepticism about Baghdad's pronouncement is misplaced and that the concession of withdrawal, however hedged about, will be seen to have marked the beginning of the end of Iraqi resistance to the demands of the security council.

Sir Anthony Parsons was formerly British ambassador to Iran and to the United Nations.

Woodman, spare us this cash demand

Marion Shoard sees no merit in the new community forests

Proposals announced this week for nine new "community forests" throughout England have attracted a predictably enthusiastic reception. In the green 1990s, few dare speak out against trees. But in these new woods, dangers lurk.

Community forests are a joint venture by the Forestry Commission and the Countryside Commission. These bodies also lie behind a scheme outlined last year for a new "national forest" covering 150 square miles between Leicester and Burton-on-Trent. Both projects are expected to provide grants will be provided for tree planting in pursuit of what is supposed to be the public interest.

Why, at a time of national belt-tightening, should taxpayers be expected to subsidise trees? Fourteen different objectives are cited for the community forest programme, while the national forest aspires to purposes which even this list fails to encompass. Of these, perhaps the most fashionable and apparently unarguable, though actually specious, is the claim that the forest will "form part of the *nation's contribution to combating* global warming". Trees do indeed trap carbon from the atmosphere, but it would take a project on the scale of a planting of the Sahara to have any significant impact on the greenhouse effect. The new forests proposed could never be more than a tiny contribution, and will not even be that.

Another objective is "to establish a supply of timber and other woodland products". This means that most of the carbon which these forests trap will gradually be released again, as wood products, such as paper and fence-posts, disintegrate or are burnt. To be effective as carbon traps, forests need to be left undisturbed, so their carbon can build not only in their trunks and branches but in shrub layers, woody debris and in the forest floor, eventually becoming coal.

Another proclaimed objective is "nature conservation". Yet new, commercial forests will do little for Britain's wildlife, which also needs undisturbed trees, *preferably* native broadleaf. Foresters prefer alien conifers, which are more profitable because they grow faster. Higher grants for native species might persuade them to grow deciduous trees, but that would mean a higher cost to the taxpayer.

Such spending would be perverse in a country where forest is not particularly scarce. We do not need to pay people to plant trees: they appear by themselves, and already cover 10 per cent of the land surface. If we are to spend public money to create wildlife habitats, it would be better spent on some of Britain's other globally important habitats, now extremely scarce: chalk downland, with its rare butterflies and orchids, lowland heath, with its Dartford Warblers and sand lizards, hay meadows and wetlands.

Two other objectives of the new forests — "improving the landscape" and "increasing opportunities for recreation" — are also questionable. What people want is *not simply more* continuous tracts of trees, but the varied, intimate patchwork of field and hedge, spinney and stream, marsh and heath, park and down for which Britain's countryside was once justly famous. In any case, much of the new forest land may be out of bounds to the public, for rights of access will be confined to any rights of way that happen to be already in place.

Clearly the new forest schemes have not been devised *solely* for the wildlife and walkers on whom this week's publicity concentrated. They are also supposed to help a troubled industry. For most of the post-war era, forestry has been privileged and remarkably successful. Recently, however, public disapproval of afforestation in upland Britain has soured the industry's image. Then, in 1988, the withdrawal of an array of tax reliefs in the budget destroyed the industry's status as a tax-haven, and consequently much of its attractiveness to investors.

Forestry now needs new sources of funds and a public relations boost. Understandably, foresters see the way out of their difficulties as identifying their business with environmental enhancement, and the Forestry Commission is keen to help. The Countryside Commission seems to have seen the new forests as a means of getting foresters to cooperate with conservation goals.

If foresters get their way, the new forest schemes will create a climate in which government incentives for tree planting will start to *increase. Eventually, foresters* could come to take over the claim on the public purse on which farmers have so successfully relied. Many landowners would be delighted to replace CAP-funded barley with taxpayer-funded spruce.

We should not be surprised that landowners want to repeat the countryside confidence trick that kept them in subsidised clover for a generation. But we do not have to let them get away with it.

Marion Shoard is the author of This Land is our Land *(Grafton).*

...and moreover

MATTHEW PARRIS

It's Friday morning. The first post has arrived. It can't be the snow, then. I now know that I'm not going to get any Valentine cards this year. Good. See if I care. I didn't want one, anyway. The ones I sent were only *jokes*.

My secretary didn't get any either. "Never mind," she said, "think of all the money we save, being single."

"And the fuss," I said.

So don't get me wrong. I'm not bitter. Oh no, my friends, mine is a carefree life. I do as I please, see whom I choose. Not for me the drudgery of partnership, the tedium of seeing the same face every morning. Not for me the horrible breathing noises that other people make in bed. Yuk! I hate kissing anyway, it's stupid.

As for sex, I never did find it easy to concentrate on anything for more than a few minutes. My mind wanders, doesn't yours? I suspect one will never be taken seriously as a lover unless one takes oneself seriously as a lover, and, as for me, I do tend to see the funny side. I mean, really, *me*? It's hard not to giggle. And once you find people are ticklish, don't you really just want to tickle them, more than anything else?

Yes, I suppose you could say I am unromantic.

But at least I can be objective. To prove it, I shall start with a complaint which is not my own at all. Why is society so good to single men, and so beastly to single women?

The very words "bachelor" and "spinster" betray, by their different resonances, the unfairness. Has a woman ever invited you up to her spinster pad?

For a man, the single state is assumed to be fun for those who have chosen it. Those who have not are thought shy and in need *of tender loving care. Both types* are viewed with affection and indulgence. Neither lacks attention.

We men need "looking after". All my life I have dined out on other people's cooking, and had my shirts mended by other people's needles. I have declined every opportunity to learn to cook, iron or sew and to this day can put my hand on my heart and confess total incompetence on all three counts. Helplessness, you see, is the key to the male game.

But what would we think of a single woman who could not cook, iron or sew? Would men take in her washing and invite her out every night? Would we say, "Oh, Fiona's a terrific hoot! Lives on bread and cheese; hardly knows how to make her own bed; barrel of laughs down at the pub, of course, but somebody really ought *to* look after her"? Indeed not. I think we have just described what anyone would call a slut. No-one has ever called me a slut, but I answer to Fiona's description in every respect but gender.

So come on, girls. Stand up for yourselves. This is not a "women's" issue. It is a *spinster's* issue. It is time for Spinster's Rights. Stickers declaring "Spinsters have more fun" should appear in the back windows of your sports cars. Spinster nights and spinster parties should be the rage, while the universities should confer "Spinster of Arts" degrees. This word must be rescued from the wretched state in which it languishes, and with it, the *women it describes.*

My second reform would benefit me: but you will immediately see its justice. When people get married we are invited to their weddings and supposed to buy them wedding presents. I don't for one moment begrudge the thousand or so pounds I have doled out in wedding gifts over the years. But where is *my* wedding present? Just because I'm single doesn't *mean I don't need a toaster and* sheets. Why should I buy other people's toaster and sheets as well as my own?

I propose that a man or woman should be able to declare, at any age after 21, a solemn intention of remaining single. It could be affirmed (if you like) at a register office or by a priest. After the ceremony, there would be an enormous party to which all one's friends are *invited*. With the *invitations*, lists would be sent out: "Goatskin rug, quantity: one" etc. Gifts would be brought. The aim would be to set up the happy single for life. Should the man or woman subsequently go to pieces and take a partner, no further gifts would be sought or accepted. So here's hoping you enjoyed *your* Valentine's day. My list will be available at Peter Jones from . . .

Hold on! That sounds like the second post, downstairs . . .

The day peace didn't break out

The world basked fleetingly in euphoria. But being Friday, Whitehall was hardly on a war footing, let alone ready for peace. Downing Street, not knowing John Major's precise whereabouts, was thrown into a panic. In fact he had just arrived at an ICI factory in Runcorn, and the first he knew of the Baghdad announcement was when a reporter sought his reaction.

He immediately asked ICI for an office and rang Sir Charles Powell, his *private* secretary, in Downing Street to ask if he should return immediately to London. But even as they spoke it became clear that the war was far from over, and Major decided to continue with his engagements.

The Foreign Office had an equally frantic few minutes contacting Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, who was presenting medals for energy-efficiency to a building company in his Oxfordshire constituency. Unlike Major, he immediately returned to London but failed to tell his constituency office.

When journalists rang the office seeking him, a bewildered spokesman said: "Everyone says the war is over, but we haven't a clue what's happening. Do you know?"

Tom King, the defence secretary, was, appropriately enough, making a speech in a British Aerospace hangar at Warton in Lancashire housing Tornado jets. His peroration was brought to an abrupt halt.

● *Yesterday's false hopes even took hold among allied troops in Saudi Arabia waiting to move up to the front line. One BBC radio reporter was accosted by an excited squaddie with the words: "Will you ring my wife and tell her to put the dinner on?"*

THE TIMES DIARY

Salisbury sopranos

After centuries of male monopoly, the sound of an all-female choir *is* to ring out at Salisbury Cathedral. Yesterday its choir school auditioned *26 girls* aged between seven and 13 from all over the country, for a 20-strong choir. They will sing at about three services a week.

"Although some cathedrals have girls in their choirs, there is no other cathedral in the country in which a girls' choir runs parallel to a boys'," says the Very Rev Hugh Dickinson, Dean of Salisbury Cathedral. "It is no longer equitable that girls should be denied the same opportunities."

To critics of the scheme who fear that Salisbury's musical tradition will be weakened, Dickinson says: "If anything, it will raise standards. There is nothing like a bit of competition." The choir school, which is already co-educational, is now trying to raise the £500,000 needed to endow places for the girls. For here inequity still rules. "We cannot use money from the existing trust, which is strictly for the benefit of boys," *says a school spokesman.* "We cannot say a girl is a boy even for the sake of education."

Springing eternal

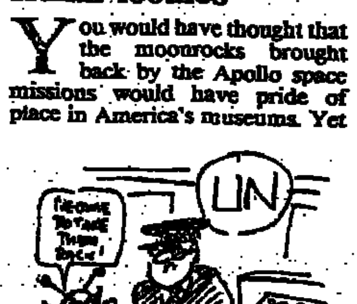
Lord Denning has entered the fray in John Major's Huntingdon constituency to try to stop a housing development on land which, it is claimed, has *commoners' rights* dating back a thousand years.

Denning's support has been enlisted by locals protesting at the sale to a property company of part of Spring Common by the town's Freemen, a charity established to benefit the families of Huntingdon's ancient burgesses. Somewhat mixing his historical metaphors, the former Master of the Rolls has told them to summon up the Roundhead spirit in defence of their Domesday Book rights. "The people of Huntingdon should fight with the same stout courage as their old grammar school boy, Oliver Cromwell," says Denning.

John Major has stayed well out of the row, insisting that it is a *planning matter* about which he can do nothing. He may, however, have inadvertently played a part in at least delaying the development. The high interest-rate policy which he pursued as Chancellor of the Exchequer has just forced the developers into receivership.

Lunar loonies

You would have thought that the moonrocks brought back by the Apollo *space* missions would have pride of place in America's museums. Yet



a survey by *The New Yorker* reveals that while most of the lunar samples are in pristine condition, not only do most American people not know where they are, some of the institutions to which they were entrusted have forgotten that they ever existed.

Much of the moondust is under lock and key at the Nasa buildings in Houston, and those seeking a glimpse of the sample at the United Nations headquarters in New York will be lucky to find it. "We don't have it here," says the telephone operator, while a press officer says emphatically: "I'm quite certain it's not here."

Admittedly the rocks don't proclaim their presence. They weigh only about three ounces and are embedded in plastic to prevent them crumbling. And where are they? Right under everyone's noses, in the entrance hall.

Snowdon's low point

Nearly 30 years after Lord Snowdon designed the aviary at London Zoo that bears his name, he is about to return to Regent's Park to help in a £1 million radical overhaul.

Consulting engineer Frank Newby, who with Snowdon and architect Cedric Price made up the original design *team*, is completing a report on the condition of the aviary which will go before the zoo board next month. It will urge major refurbishment.

"We want to re-landscape the entire area, provide new graphics and rethink the way we present the birds in their habitat," says Peter Olney, the curator of birds. The zoo will probably launch an appeal to raise the money.

Snowdon has not yet been approached, but says: "I would be delighted to make a contribution again. I enjoyed working on the original project." Not that it was the most financially rewarding job he has ever undertaken. "For three years' solid work, making four different models and going to every site meeting, I was paid the huge sum of £143."

هكذا من الاعلى

SADDAM TRIES IT ON

Has President Saddam Hussein blinked at last? Or is his latest manoeuvre, as President Bush said yesterday, "a cruel hoax", a last desperate feint to buy time, forestall a ground offensive and trap the allies into interminable negotiations? Yesterday's statement by Iraq's ruling Revolutionary Command Council declared Iraq's "readiness to deal with" UN resolution 660, "including the clause related to Iraqi withdrawal."

Had Iraq really accepted 660, the initial euphoria in Baghdad and foreign capitals would have been justified. An Iraqi withdrawal would have had to be rapidly implemented, vigilantly enforced and irreversible. Whatever doubts might have survived about leaving Iraq's military power relatively intact and Saddam still in power, there could have been no choice for the allies but to cease firing and eventually go home.

Saddam has done no such thing. Resolution 660 is unambiguous in its demand that Iraq withdraw all its forces "immediately and unconditionally" to pre-August 2 positions in Iraq. Instead, the RCC statement makes withdrawal incumbent on a host of conditions. Only the first, a ceasefire to enable troops to be pulled back, could have been accepted as part of the mechanics of a *complete, immediate*, Iraqi withdrawal.

The linkages demanded by Iraq are those of a victor out to dictate terms for the future of the entire Middle East. They include: withdrawal of all allied forces and weapons from the Gulf within a month of the ceasefire; Israeli withdrawal from "occupied Palestine", Syria and Lebanon (to be enforced by UN sanctions); the abrogation of all UN resolutions on Iraq "as though all this has not happened"; cancellation of Iraq's debts and allied financing of Iraq's postwar reconstruction; UN guarantees of "all Iraq's historical rights on land and in the sea" (which implicitly restates a claim to Kuwait); the participation of "national and Islamic forces" in Kuwait's political arrangements, which would exclude the legitimate al-Sabah ruling family; and the proclamation of the Gulf as a zone free "from any form of foreign military presence".

Iraq, in other words, is to be handed a huge strategic victory by the international community in return for a short-term tactical defeat. This goes far beyond Iraq's familiar demands for linkage with the Palestinian question, again toughened yesterday. Not only would sanctions be lifted and Iraq financially compensated, but resolution 662 (which declared Iraq's annexation of Kuwait void) would be cancelled, as would resolutions holding Iraq responsible for atrocities in Kuwait and damage to other countries. The allies would be required to stay out of the Gulf permanently.

Are these demands intended simply as rhetorical window-dressing for domestic consumption, to cover the nakedness of a strategic decision to admit defeat? The reference to 660 could be read as preparing public opinion for a climbdown, but against that must be set the effrontery — and implausibility — of Iraq's conditions. Saddam must be truly divorced from reality if he believed these terms would be accepted. More probably he calculates that, after insisting for nearly 200 days that Kuwait is Iraq's 19th province, the novelty of Iraq's use of the word "withdrawal" would alone be enough to unhinge the alliance.

Saddam deserves full marks for timing but none for content. The Amiriya bombing has created a wave of public sympathy which had already affected the mood of the UN security council, which yesterday discussed the Gulf for the first time since the allied counter-offensive began. The Soviet Union, singled out for praise in the communique, played host yesterday to Iran's foreign minister; a European Community delegation follows today and Iraq's foreign minister, *Tariq Aziz*, arrives tomorrow. The biggest land battle since 1945 is imminent. What better time to seduce with talk of talks?

Saddam has thoroughly overplayed his hand. An apparently moderate and reasonable offer might have unsettled the alliance, or at least forced a military pause. This display of megalomania will not. Western and Arab leaders alike have dismissed it out of hand. Saddam's "peace offer" should neither delay nor accelerate the land war. It only confirms its inevitability.

LIFE AFTER POLL TAX: 4

A painful hiatus has arrived in the debate over the replacement of poll tax. Signals from Michael Heseltine's environment fortress in *Marsham Street* indicate that the predicted has come true: there is no fancy alternative to an early return to the rates as the basis of local taxation, while the hope that this could be hidden within a grand reform of local government is wildly optimistic. In a flurry of papers and options and face-saving formulas, Mr Heseltine's grand strategy is nose down in the sand. His colleagues are exasperated and the Treasury is shaking its head with glee, always a bad sign for the future of good government. A revised way forward is urgent.

For once, such a way is clear. Mr Heseltine's brief from the cabinet was never realistic. Even had he proved a more decisive reformer than is his nature, he had bitten off more than he can chew. The scheme, favoured by John Major and others, that a flat-rate charge based on poll-tax registers could survive alongside the rates was unrealistic. Such charges must be so low as to avoid costly rebates for the poor, but are thus not worth the high collection costs. If they are set high enough to be worth collecting, then like poll tax they require ever more costly rebates. This is catch-22. The poll tax was always a bad idea; it would be no less bad if spliced onto a revived rating system. The twin principles of accountability and payment for services must be met through the rates. It is as simple as that.

The cabinet must now come clean with its backbenchers and supporters in the country, and do so before the May local elections. Nothing is to be gained and everything lost by delay. Mr Heseltine's task will be painful in the short run — he at least was not party to the shameful poll-tax cabinets of the late-1980s — but it will be quickly over. Summer will be warm and the electoral map will be busy with other diversions. Having thus slain the dragon of poll tax, Mr Heseltine could get down to the more important and fascinating job of reforming local government, entrenching the principles that should underlie his fiscal changes in a revitalised local democracy. This cannot be done in a matter of weeks. He is in effect conducting a one-man royal commission enquiry into the future of half of Britain's government. He is trying to do this with absurd speed, in between abolishing the poll tax and cleaning up the Gulf.

When Mr Heseltine began his enquiry, he rightly offered to consult all and sundry, including the Opposition. Not since the Redcliffe-Maud commission of 1969 (which sat for three years) has such radicalism been promised. Nor is a serious adjustment of local government after a quarter century unreasonable. Yet interest groups are being rushed in and out of Marsham Street with hardly a minute to catch their breath or convey their message. None of the department's position papers are being revealed to the world outside. Mr Heseltine's head is known to be spinning with local cabinets, redrawn boundaries, county boroughs, elected mayors. Education spending is skidding left, right and centre. While the cardinal reformist principles of devolution, local identity and democratic accountability appear to be to the fore in Mr Heseltine's mind, that is all that can be gleaned about them.

Mr Major should now calm everything down. He should take hold of Mr Heseltine, get the poll tax off his back and give him a clear remit and sensible deadline to come up with ideas on local government reform. The debate on this must take place in a wider forum than the confines of the environment department itself. There should be a green paper followed by six months of thorough discussion. Mr Heseltine's heart is in the right place on all this. Where is his head?

TOO SHARP WITH SHORT

Clare Short has been forced to stand down as Opposition frontbench "spokesperson" (as she would have it) on social security because of her publicly stated views on the Gulf war. The Labour leader, Neil Kinnock, told her she should stick to her brief, speaking only on social security policy. If she wanted to speak freely about the conduct of the Gulf campaign, she should return to the backbenches. This was a mistake.

Mr Kinnock, as he showed in his earlier treatment of John Prescott, is in no mood to tolerate even mild dissent from the shadow cabinet line. Ms Short eschewed ambition and resigned. Joan Ruddock, apparently in a similar fix, knuckled under and agreed to stick to her transport portfolio.

Neither Ms Short nor Mrs Ruddock should have been put in that invidious position. What Ms Short wants to say is an honourable and legitimate part of public debate on war aims. Members of Parliament are entitled to ask whether utilities such as electricity and water are proper military targets, even if the answer is that they *must* be. Only the most gung-ho electors will be offended by a Labour frontbencher questioning American bombing strategy, particularly when plenty of American politicians, indeed apparently plenty of generals in the Gulf, are doing so.

That a senior Labour politician should have to be coralled into the cross-party line by Labour's terror of being thought unpatriotic is a sad comment on Westminster's political culture. The thesis that collective responsibility must extend to every view a politician might express for fear of the public doubting that party's cohesion is absurd. At least in government, the absurdity serves to maintain discipline behind the actions of the state. No such need exists in opposition.

Evidence that politicians have consciences which sometimes prick is reassuring to the electorate. In the aftermath of the Amiriya disaster, some public questioning, even anguish, was timely. A sensible leader would have welcomed a display of it from a colleague. Ms Short and Mr Kinnock do not apparently differ about limiting the war aims to those defined in UN resolution 660. Mr Kinnock is no more responsible than Ms Short for the selection of bombing targets. To question their selection in specific instances is hardly a challenge to his authority since in this matter he has none.

If the challenge perceived by him was not to his authority, what was it? It must have been regarded by him as a threat to the carefully cultivated perception of Labour party unity. There may be newspapers eager to fall upon such slight evidence of a Labour split over the war. Mr Kinnock should have had the strength of mind to ignore them, and bring a dash of lively colour back to his front bench as soon as possible.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. Telephone 071-782 5000

Dilemma of remaining in the ERM

From Professor Emeritus R. Marris

Sir, The irony of the letter from Messrs Congdon et al. (February 13) is exquisite. Ever since the ideas of their school of thought took over, the economy has become more unstable and more difficult to manage. There is hope that the ideas are in retreat, but we are still suffering the aftermath.

The reason why we are in the exchange rate mechanism with a rate that is by now somewhat (not vastly) overvalued vis à vis the other members is that, for reasons that had nothing to do with economics, it took us so long to get in. In the meantime the abandonment of credit controls, apparently for ideological reasons, contributed to the extraordinary and unnecessary recrudescence of inflation in the UK ahead of Europe.

Now we seem to be in the horrid situation that we may not be able to *undertake a sufficent cut in interest* rates while remaining in the ERM. But we are going to stay in the ERM, so we have to find a solution.

Your economics editor, in a lucid comment last October, went to the heart of the matter, when he wrote that the fiscal and credit policies that were a vital part of Keynesian demand management had been thrown away, leaving policy-makers with only the interest rate and exchange rate to influence a multiplicity of objectives.

Yours faithfully,
ROBIN MARRIS,
Lingard House, Chiswick Mall, W4.
February 14.

From Mr Julian Amery, MP for Brighton Pavilion (Conservative)

Sir, Sir Alan Walters and his co-signatories to the letter of February 13 and Sir Alan's article today have opened an important debate. Britain is in a recession, though whether a slump is in the making is arguable. Clearly, however, a half per cent *reduction in interest rates, though a* useful reconnaisance to test market reaction, cannot affect the situation.

What is needed to offset the excessive cost to industry of high interest rates is a sharp reduction of these by at least 2 per cent. The question is, when should this beneficial injection be administered?

Confidence is the most important element in economic activity, so a large cut in interest rates in the immediate future could well be interpreted as showing a lack of resolve to fight inflation. Would it not be wiser to wait a month or two *until the rate of inflation* has actually come down, instead of being headed in the right direction?

Sir Alan has called for courage on the part of the government. May I suggest that more courage is needed to stay in the ERM now than to opt out? The real task is to make ERM work effectively, and on economic rather than political considerations.

The Bundesbank has increased Deutschmark interest rates for domestic reasons, but rather than raise them further would welcome a realignment of the European currencies. But, if I am not mistaken, their request here is primarily directed to the Bank of France. Would a realignment be in the economic interest of France or is French resistance to the idea based on political grounds?

Should we not join with France and other colleagues in the ERM to see whether we could not meet the German proposal to realign all our currencies downward in relation to the Deutschmark by, say, 8 to 10 per cent?

Your distinguished correspondents write, of course, as economists. But in the real world do we not have to take account of politics as well, since politics engage confidence and confidence is the intangible factor in all economic calculations?

Yours faithfully,
JULIAN AMERY,
112 Eaton Square, SW1.
February 14.

From Sir Alfred Sherman

Sir, The controversy over interest rates indicates a depressing inability by our policy-makers and opinion-formers to analyse or learn from experience. In 1976 Denis Healey instituted a neo-Keynesian monetary squeeze at the prompting of the International Monetary Fund, in the hope of reducing inflationary pressures and the resulting imbalance of payments.

In 1979 the incoming government inherited Healey's squeeze and continued it, albeit with changed rhetoric, without tackling the underlying misallocation of resources. Healey thereupon denounced the squeeze of Thatcherite monetarism, supported by 364 tame economists who had supported it under its previous doyen.

Early in 1985 Nigel Lawson decided to buy popularity by relaxing the squeeze, again without tackling the underlying misallocation of resources. The result, as observers at the time, including Professor Congdon and myself, *pointed out*, was to precipitate a boom whose inflationary consequences would be expected after a lag of two to three years. This inevitably provoked a new Healey squeeze, with 1978-80 rhetoric, because no one had done any thinking in the meantime.

In 1974, Keith Joseph initiated the Thatcher *revolution* by admitting, "we were wrong". Unfortunately, that is the only particular so far in which history is failing to repeat itself.

Yours etc.,
ALFRED SHERMAN,
10 Gerald Road, SW1.

Reflections on freeze and thaw

From Mr Kevin Wellman

Sir, I was appalled and amazed at your leader of February 14, "Paying the piper", which "advises" householders on how to deal with "cowboy" plumbers.

Are you suggesting that a little old lady dealing with a burst pipe or a blocked toilet should go out and buy a DIY plumbing book and swot up on 15mm elbows and compression joints before calling a plumber? If so, it follows that it may be an equally good idea to take a copy of "The Home Doctor" into hospital and display it on the bedhead, in readiness for the consultant's round.

The art of certain aspects of plumbing — such as joining pipes together — is simpler now than it has ever been, but the technicalities involved have become vastly more complex. Plumbers no longer wipe joints, but it is the current water byelaws which prohibit them from doing so, not their lack of craftsmanship. As there are no controls over the manufacture and sale of DIY plumbing fittings, a purchaser could contravene the water byelaws by installing fittings not listed by the Water Research Centre.

Cowboy plumbers are always with us and they tend to make the headlines during arctic weather conditions. This situation is exacerbated by the low priority which householders give to their plumbing systems and their failure to question exorbitant bills.

If plumbing is in "decadent decline" it may be because of the government's refusal to acknowledge that it is a craft that should be stringently controlled by statutory registration. Rather than "soldering in place the professional mystique of plumbing", such registration would release the householder from the *oppression* of the unscrupulous cowboy.

Yours faithfully,
KEVIN WELLMAN
(Technical manager),
The Insitute of Plumbing,
64 Station Lane,
Hornchurch, Essex.

From Mr R. A. Philips

Sir, When I was about ten, in the 1960s, my younger brother and I found a way of earning extra pocket money during icy periods. We would call on neighbours armed with a shovel and brush and clear the snow in front of their houses and also the pavement.

Are there no Scout groups or similar organisations looking for ways to raise money? We cannot expect the local authorities to clear every pavement: they have enough problems with the main roads. Have we become so totally dependent on the "authorities" that we cannot look after ourselves and our neighbours any more?

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD PHILIPS,
174 Effra Road, Wimbledon, SW19.

From Mr Ian Shanks

Sir, Have you received any reports of phenomena of the "crop-circle" type in these snowy times?

Yours sincerely,
I. F. SHANKS,
41 Devenay Road, Stratford, E15.

Baltic independence

From Dr Michael Ryan

Sir, In your leading article of February 6 you rightly castigate as folly President Gorbachev's decree which declares illegal the Lithuanian referendum on independence. Some idea of the extent to which ordinary Russians may share that judgement is conveyed by data published in the February 3 issue of the weekly *Moscow News*, reporting the results of opinion polling carried out in Leningrad.

On four occasions interviewees had been asked to express agreement or disagreement with the statement: "The Baltic republics must be prevented from leaving the Soviet Union by force". When first asked in September 1989, 56 per cent of Leningraders disagreed, but the proportion rose sharply to reach 87 per cent in January of this year.

Even amongst those who expressed confidence in the president of the USSR 73 per cent now disagreed while, unsurprisingly, among those who had no confidence in him the figure was 93 per cent.

Furthermore, relatively little variation now exists between the responses of people in the four age-bands and eight socio-occupational categories for which separate figures are given. It is particularly striking that out of the military personnel surveyed 79 per cent opposed the use of force in this connection.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL RYAN,
University College of Swansea,
Department of Political Theory and Government,
Singleton Park,
Swansea, West Glamorgan.
February 8.

Drawing the line

From Mr John O'Connor

Sir, Your report (February 5) on the "resumption" of drawing classes at the Royal College of Art, was headed "Tradition broken as the art of drawing comes to life". A more apt title would have been "Tradition returns to the RCA".

Any RCA graduate of the 30s reading the piece must have shared my amusement, knowing that students from every department of the college were then required to attend drawing and life classes. Several studios were allocated in the early evenings, with model and tutor, to accommodate students who were unable to attend at any other time.

It is absurd to suggest that a graduate from an art college should not continue to learn to draw in postgraduate studies. No professional instrumentalist or singer would ever discontinue research, learning and practice, or a student of dance his or her barre exercises.

The practice of drawing continues long after the period of formal art school education. With regular self-criticism one creates one's own "master class" and continues to learn.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN O'CONNOR,
Craigmore,
Parton, by Castle Douglas,
Stewartry of Kirkcudbright.

NHS trust status

From Mr Martin A. Nelson

Sir, April 1 will see the introduction of trust status for my hospital. While the management clearly believes that a new era for the health service is dawning I, after 21 years and three reorganisations, am less sanguine.

Since its inception in 1948, the NHS has been unable to fulfil its intentions — namely, to provide a comprehensive health care system for all at the time of need without payment. Surgical waiting lists and outpatient waiting time have been a continual embarrassment to successive governments and become one of the measures used to elevate the success of the service.

As time has gone on, several changes have made the task of providing an efficient health service more and more difficult. These include the demographic time bomb now exploding (50 per cent of my patients are over 70); the technological revolution — the most frequent operation I perform, joint replacement, did not exist when I qualified and I learned how to do it after I became a consultant; and the reduction in nursing hours to 37½ a week from 40 a week 10 years ago — nurses' salaries account for 70 per cent of the salary bill of the NHS.

It is not surprising that neither the consultant staff, or the nurses, or the ancillary staff supported a change in status which has no possible chance of addressing these problems. What the NHS needs are more and better targeted resources which no amount of reorganising and efficiency can ever provide.

At a time when unlimited finances are available, albeit for a war, we are reminded that money can always be found when the need is deemed to be great. Perhaps when this war is over we will reconsider our priorities and find more resources for our sick, our children and the elderly.

Yours faithfully,
M. A. NELSON
(Consultant orthopaedic surgeon),
The General Infirmary at Leeds,
Great George Street,
Leeds, West Yorkshire.

Right to know

From Mr John Hayes

Sir, In his winning entry for *The Times* 1990 Law Awards ("Should the law restrict the right to know?", Law, January 29), Mr Christopher Whitty employs a dangerous logic as the foundation for his assertion that patients should be denied access to medical information about themselves. The "right to know" he writes, is a "fiction" which is "established in none of the classical definitions of the rights of man".

No doubt it is difficult to formulate a general right to know applicable to all circumstances, as is clear from the correspondence on Mr Whitty's essay (February 5). But in the context of the doctor-patient relationship the patient's right to know is derived from *other* fundamental rights, namely, the right to self-determination and freedom from uninformed (and therefore non-consensual) bodily interference.

Patients must be given access to information concerning their lives and their health. This cannot be said to be a "legal absurdity". What *is* absurd is the suggestion that to withhold information from patients will make "no difference to them at all".

What if a patient is kept in the dark about alternative treatment options or possible side-effects of the medical procedure recommended by the doctor? This will deny the patient the opportunity to make an informed decision.

What if a doctor makes an unsubstantiated allegation and circulates this to other professional colleagues (a practice which Mr Whitty appears to support)? The patient will have no means of challenging the doctor's "unproven" judgement.

Mr Whitty's essay acts as a warning to the law in England, which tends to give favourable treatment to medical opinion and practice in setting medical disclosure standards. There is an alternative to the paternalistic view of doctors recording information for their "own use" and keeping it secret in their patients' "interests". It is one which sees the doctor-patient relationship as one founded upon mutual trust and shared decision-making.

In this regard, the medical insights of the essay are indeed informative. They serve to demonstrate the pressing need for a widening of the perspectives of medical education, with trainee doctors encouraged to respect the importance of their patients' right to know.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN HAYES,
The Free University of Berlin,
Law Department,
Boltzmannstrasse 3,
1000 Berlin 33, Germany.
February 5.

Future of Eritrea

From Mr Louis FitzGibbon

Sir, Talks take place in London next week on US-sponsored efforts to find a peaceful solution to the Ethiopia/Eritrea dispute. The Eritreans will doubtless be asked to accept some kind of loose "federation", with a vague promise of a referendum in several years' time.

However, after 30 years of bitter fighting it is unlikely that the Eritreans will do other than insist upon a referendum on independence now, and indeed no one could expect them to trust the Mengistu regime.

While the West seems to have little time for Eritrean independence *it is staunch in supporting* the aspirations of Lithuania. Is that because the Baltic states are in the news and there is too little interest in the Horn of Africa?

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
LOUIS FitzGIBBON,
8 Portland Place,
Brighton,
East Sussex.
February 13.

Motorway safety

From Mr Andrew Bradford

Sir, Having recently motored through ten European countries, I would like to raise a point concerning motorway central reservations. We seem to have concentrated our expenditure on ensuring that nothing grows there, by removing topsoil and replacing with stone chips.

By complete contrast, continental central reservations have nearly complete hedges of shrubs within the barriers which can be attractive, are clearly of environmental benefit and, most importantly, all but eliminate the tiring glare of oncoming headlights from the opposite carriageway. This contributes to safety and should be encouraged.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW BRADFORD,
Estate Office, Kincardine,
Kincardine O'Neil,
Aboyne,
Aberdeenshire.
February 14.

A place for S Africa

From Mr Edward Garnier

Sir, After spending three weeks last September in South Africa meeting political leaders representing all shades of opinion, ranging from Koos van der Merwe of the Conservatives to Nelson Mandela of the ANC, I came back with the impression that although there is considerable South African respect for this country, a return to the Commonwealth is on no one's agenda (letters, February 6). What third-world South Africa desperately needs is massive western financial assistance to develop its education and health-care systems.

One in three mothers delivering children at the main maternity hospital in Soweto has Aids; huge numbers of young blacks can neither read nor write. First-world South Africa, for all its riches, cannot afford to deal with the problem on its own. Sanctions on credit must therefore be speedily removed.

To have South Africa back in the Commonwealth might make some South Africans feel good; but I suspect that what would make all *South Africans feel good* (and citizens of the same country) would be to see a multi-racial Springbok rugby side or a leading soccer team, such as the Soweto Chieftains, returning home after a successful tour to the United Kingdom.

Yours faithfully,
EDWARD GARNIER,
1 Brick Court, Temple, EC4.

Divorce and the church

From Mr Jeremy Moiser

Sir, May I contribute to the debate raised in your columns by Clifford Longley ("Making sense of divorce", February 9)?

As I understand it, the gospel writers agree that Jesus forbade divorce: that is, neither husband or wife may send his or her spouse away. No teaching of his is recorded, however, on the options open to one who is immorally sent away.

This gap is filled by Matthew (chapter 19) and Paul (1 Corinthians, 7) but in opposite directions. For the former, the dismissed partner remains committed to the marriage and therefore may not (at least ideally) remarry. For the latter, on the contrary, the dismissed partner is free to remarry.

This view of the New Testament is not new, but it has never been pursued by church authorities. A proper respect for Paul's teaching would offer a solution to many unhappy situations and enable the churches to develop a fuller theology of marital breakdown.

Yours faithfully,
JEREMY MOISER,
Glenhead Cottage,
Glenfarg, Perthshire.

Ebb or flow

From Mr N. R. Fallon

Sir, Water in the new London main will flow both ways at the same time, Mr Hoffman tells us (February 12). What is the rule of the main: keep to the left or keep to the right?

Yours faithfully,
N. R. FALLON,
2 Lansdowne, Carlton Drive, SW15.

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071 782 5046).

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 15: His Excellency Monsieur Vincent Boulé was received in audience by The Queen and presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from the Republic of Gabon to the Court of St James's.

His Excellency was accompanied by the following members of the Embassy: Monsieur Pierre-Claver Nze-Obame (First Counsellor), Monsieur William Anguile (Second Counsellor) and Madame Paulette Nze-Obame (First Secretary).

Madame Manna Boulé was also received by Her Majesty.

Sir Patrick Wright (Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs) was present and the Household in Waiting were in attendance.

Sir Peter Levene was received by The Queen upon his retirement as Chief of Defence Procurement, Ministry of Defence.

Mr Justice Cresswell was received by The Queen upon his appointment as a Justice of the High Court when Her Majesty conferred upon him the honour of Knighthood and invested him with the Insignia of a Knight Bachelor.

Mrs Michael Wigley was received by The Queen when Her Majesty invested her with the Insignia of a Commander of the Royal Victorian Order.

The Duke of Edinburgh visited Newcastle today and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Tyne and Wear (Colonel Sir Ralph Carr-Ellison).

His Royal Highness visited the North of the Tyne Gymnastics Centre, Benfield Road, Newcastle and was received by Mr K Sunderland (Chairman, North of the Tyne Amateur Gymnastics Association).

The Duke of Edinburgh afterwards opened the Newcastle Business Park.

Subsequently His Royal Highness, Captain General of the Royal Marines, visited Royal Marines Reserve Tyne Headquarters, Quayside, Newcastle and was received by the Commanding Officer (Lieutenant-Colonel A L Turnbull).

Lieutenant-Commander Malcolm Sillars, RN was in attendance.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 15: The Duchess of York today attended a luncheon given by The First Sea Lord and Lady Oswald for the wives of Naval Personnel serving in the Gulf, at the Mall House Flat, London.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
February 15: The Duke of Kent, Honorary Air Vice Marshal, today visited families of personnel serving in the Gulf at Royal Air Force Lossiemouth and Royal Air Force Kinloss, Grampian Region, Scotland. Captain the Hon Christopher Knollys was in attendance.

His Royal Highness, President, this evening attended a Discourse by Lord Marshall at the Royal Institution, Albemarle Street, London W1.

Commander Roger Walker RN was in attendance.

Today's royal engagements

Prince Edward will attend the Wales v Ireland international rugby match at the National Stadium, Cardiff Arms Park, at 12.10.

The Princess Royal will open the new North Stand and attend the England v Scotland international rugby match at Twickenham at 12.30.

Birthdays

TODAY: Mr P.E.R. Bailey, former director, Gatwick and Stansted Airports, 66; Mr F.G.R. Cuming, painter, 61; Mr Anthony Dowell, ballet dancer, 48; Mr David Emms, director, London House for Overseas Graduates, 66; Sir Geraint Evans, baritone, 69; Lord Franks, OM, 86; Professor Jack Levy, mechanical engineer, 65; Mr John McEnroe, tennis player, 32; Sir Maitland Mackie, former Lord Lieutenant of Aberdeenshire, 79; Sir Michael Milne-Watson, former chairman, BUPA, 81; Sir John Peck, diplomat, 78; Mr Peter Porter, poet, 62; Mr John Schlesinger, film director, 65; Sir Kenneth Selby, former president, Bath and Portland Group, 77; Sir James Swaffield, former director-general and Clerk to the GLC, 67; Mr Justice Webster, 67.

TOMORROW: Sir Derek Andrews, civil servant, 58; Mr Alan Bates, actor, 57; the Earl of Dundonald, 30; the Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, 67; Lord Foot, 82; Mr Barry Humphries, entertainer and author, 57; Sir Gordon Jones, chairman, Yorkshire Water, 64; Lord Kearton, 80; Miss Julia McKenzie, actress and singer, 50; General Sir John Mogg, 78; Sir Orby Mootham, former Chief Justice, Allahabad, 90; Dr Claire Palley, principal, St Anne's College, Oxford, 60; Sir Reginald Pullen, former receiver-general, Westminster Abbey, 69; Mrs Ruth Rendell, crime novelist, 61; the Hon Nicholas Ridley, MP, 62; Miss Patricia Routledge, actress, 62; Sir Gordon Slynn, a judge of the Court of Justice, European Communities, 61; Commandant Mary Talbot, former director, WRNS, 69; Mr Elleston Trevor, author, 70; Sir Anthony Wilson, former accountancy adviser to HM Treasury, 63.

Anniversaries

TODAY: Births, Giambattista Bodoni, type designer, Saluzzo, Italy, 1740; Heinrich Barth, explorer in North Africa, Hamburg, 1821; Francis Galton, geneticist, Birmingham, 1822; Ernst Haeckel, biologist, Potsdam, 1834; Henry Brook Adams, historian, Boston, Massachusetts, 1838;

Deaths, Richard Meade, physician, London, 1754; Lionel Lukin, pioneer of the lifeboat, Hythe, Kent, 1834; Elisha Kane, physician and Arctic explorer, Havana, 1857; Henry Walter Bates, naturalist and explorer in South America, London, 1892; Ciosuè Carducci, poet, Nobel laureate, 1906, Bologna, 1907; Leslie Hore-Belisha, 1st Baron Hore-Belisha, statesman, innovator of "Belisha beacons", Reims, 1957.

TOMORROW: Births, Arcangelo Corelli, composer, Fusignano, Italy, 1653; Horace Benedict de Saussure, physicist, Geneva, 1740; René Laennec, physician, inventor of the stethoscope, Quimper, France, 1781;

Deaths, Molière, Paris, 1673; James Macpherson, poet, Inverness, 1796; Johann Heinrich Pestalozzi, educator, Brugg, Switzerland, 1827; John Martin, historical painter, Douglas, Isle of Man, 1854; Heinrich Heine, poet, Paris, 1856; John Braham, singer and composer, London, 1856; Henry Olcott, co-founder of the Theosophical Society, Madras, 1907; Geronimo, Apache chief, Port Sill, Oklahoma, 1908; Sir Wilfred Laurier, prime minister of Canada 1896-1911, Ottawa, 1919; Albert, King of the Belgians 1909-34, Marche-les-Dames, Belgium, 1934; Hans Hofmann, Expressionist painter, New York, 1966;

Association launched

Association for Research into Stammering in Childhood
The Association for Research into Stammering into Childhood was launched on Tuesday, February 12, 1991, at a press conference at the Sheraton Park Tower, Knightsbridge, SW1. Among those present were Mrs Lena Rustin, speech therapist, Mr Travers Reid, Chairman, Mr Michael Palin and Mr Derek Nimmo, vice presidents, Lord Kenilworth, Mr Dudley Sutton, Miss Julie T. Wallace and Miss Cheryl Kennedy. The aim of the association is to establish a centre for treatment, assessment and observation of this complex problem of stammering in childhood. Donations should be sent to the ARSC, 10 Fallowfield, Stanmore, Middlesex, HA7 3DF.

Major-General Sir Nigel Tapp

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Major-General Sir Nigel Tapp, KBE, CB, DSO, will be held at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, on Tuesday, March 19, 1991, at 11.00am.

Mr Eric Hopton

The Hon Neville and Mrs Berry much regret they were unable to attend the service of thanksgiving for Mr Eric Hopton yesterday because of absence abroad.

Baroness Seccombe

The life barony conferred upon Dame Joan Anna Dalziel Seccombe, DBE, has been gazetted by the name, style and title of Baroness Seccombe, of Kineton in the County of Warwickshire.

OBITUARIES

DR JORGEN TROELS-SMITH

Dr Jorgen Troels-Smith, founder and head of the natural sciences section of the Danish National Museum in Copenhagen, died on February 11 aged 74. He was born on June 7, 1916.

JORGEN Troels-Smith was a man of the peat bogs. He achieved international eminence in the recording and interpretation of unconsolidated sediments, the identification of pollen types and in establishing the impact of prehistoric man on the environment through agriculture and pastoralism in both Denmark and Switzerland. In archaeology, he made influential contributions by his classifications of mesolithic axes, prehistoric boats and early neolithic wooden objects. In coastal and sea-level investigations, he demonstrated the relationship between prehistoric settlement sites and marine inundations. He traced the introduction of agriculture in Denmark and resolved the problem of the Swiss lake dwellings, elucidating prehistoric farming techniques, such as leaf foddering and field manuring.

The primary evidence he marshalled was novel, the techniques precise and fastidiously applied. The graphic representation of sections and pollen frequencies are unsurpassed and his mode of working is a model for present and future environmental scientists. His penetrating ideas and stimulating material are presented in a series of papers and monographs, published between 1934 and 1984, in Danish, German, Polish and English. His seminal contributions include "Pollen morphological definitions and types" (with Johannes Iversen), "Characterisation of Unconsolidated Sediments", "Ivy, mistletoe and elm: climate indicators-fodder plants", "The Ertebolle Culture", and, for the Council of Europe, "Man's relationship with the environment through the ages".

Troels-Smith was born in Viborg, but spent much of his early life on the island of Samso in the Great Belt. He was a student of the great Danish botanist Dr Johannes Iversen, and graduated in 1943 with a Master of Science degree from the University of Copenhagen. In 1955 he gained his doctoral degree for a thesis on the Swiss Lake dwellings.

From 1956 until his retirement in 1986 he was head of the natural sciences department, which he founded in the Danish National Museum. During this and the preceding period, he built up dating facilities and a formidable array of field and laboratory techniques: he was a founder member of the radiocarbon dating laboratory in Copenhagen which was established only a few years after Dr Libby's experiments in Chicago, and encouraged the development of tree ring studies and thermoluminescent dating.

He was president of the Danish Geological Society, and received the Emil-Vogt prize and for his contributions to geology, botany, archaeology and geography, an honorary DSc at the University of Durham. For 14 years he was senior lecturer in peat geology in the University of Copenhagen. The field was his teaching laboratory, and scientists from all over the world joined classes either at the great bog of Aamosen or the coastal site of Gammelholm on Samso. Here pits were dug, duckboards were thrown down, and for hours on end, perched on three-legged stools sections were recorded and discussed: Troels sat cross-legged at the edge of the pit, wearing a waistcoat, open-necked blue shirt, a moleskin or knitted skull cap and smoking Capstan tobacco. In all things, his interests were catholic. He read voraciously and shared his experiences — Dinesen, Tolkein and his fellow honorary graduate at Durham, Doris Lessing. Music was an important part of his life — Mozart, Beethoven and Nielsen — played very loudly *in his home in Soborg.*

In 1940, he married Marianne, daughter of an Eskimo hunter from Jakobshavn, Greenland. It was a happy marriage. She pre-deceased him; their five children survive him.

WILLIAM HOWARD BAKER

William (Bill) Howard Baker, publisher and author, died on February 13 aged 65. He was born on October 3, 1925.

BILL Howard Baker's literary career started in journalism and culminated with the Howard Baker Press which he founded and ran almost single handed for more than 20 years. After the second world war, during which he served in the armed forces, Baker travelled extensively throughout the Far East, America and Europe while writing as a freelance correspondent. Having settled in London he became editor of Panther Books after a spell as correspondent for a group of German and Scandinavian magazines.

He was already an established author of Sexton Blake stories under his own name, as well as under the pseudonym Peter Saxon, when he was invited to become editor of the Sexton Blake Library for Amalgamated Press. During his time at Fleetway House (1955-1964) Baker not only increased the popularity of the SBL but was also controlling editor of several other Amalgamated Press children's picture magazines. Several of his Sexton Blake stories are considered among the best ever written and it was Baker who introduced Paula Dane, Blake's secretary, to the world.

He continued to publish the books under a new imprint after Amalgamated Press was taken over. After founding the Howard Baker Press in 1968 he continued with the Blake stories in hardback format. One of the major planks in his book list was biographies. These included the delightful *World of Alison Uttley* by Elizabeth Saintsbury which accompanied reprints of several of Mrs Uttley's own writings on the countryside.

Memories of Baker's school days and family holidays in Ireland, where he would walk along the cliff road in Cross Haven, reading that week's adventures of Billy Bunter and Co at Greyfriars School, were the inspiration for his *chef d'oeuvre* — the intended reprinting of the entire run of 1683 weekly issues of the *Magnet* in which these tales had appeared between 1908 and 1940. Although the start was tentative and, indeed, speculative the venture proved so popular that as Baker said in a radio interview "more *Magnets* are being printed today than at the paper's zenith of popularity." Published in several formats, including a modern version of the *Greyfriars Holiday Annual*, each volume contained up to ten issues of the *Magnet*. With some 1500 issues reprinted he sadly did not live to see the culmination of his dream.

Unfortunately his private press and distribution network limited the potential circulation and sales of his books; but the arcane minority for whom he unashamedly slaved did much to overcome the shortcomings of lack of advertising through word of mouth, and despite several crises he managed not only to survive but flourish.

Baker was born and educated in Cork where he was editor of his school magazine. An man of eclectic tastes, he listed amongst his hobbies: fish ponds, waterfalls, church architecture and the contemplation of tasks undone.

He leaves a widow, Irene, and a son and daughter.

HIS HONOUR ROWE HARDING

His Honour Rowe Harding, former circuit judge and oldest surviving Welsh rugby international, on February 10 aged 89. He was born on September 10, 1901.

BETWEEN 1923 and 1928 Rowe Harding played 17 times for Wales. His first and last caps were against England. He had one further season with Swansea, a club for which he first played when he was only 17, and retired from playing at the age of 28 on being called to the bar by the Inner Temple.

In internationals he played on the winning side only once against the home countries, when he captained Wales against Ireland in 1926. It was a dark period in Welsh rugby history. His speed on the wing — he was a Welsh champion sprinter — and great footballing gifts were not always seen to best advantage in the national team. While at Pembroke College, Cambridge, he played in four Varsity matches from 1924, captaining the team in 1927. He scored a try in each of his last two appearances. Rowe Harding travelled to South Africa to play three tests for the Lions in 1924.

He was born of a rugby family. His father, Albert, a colliery manager, had established a club, Glais, in the Swansea valley in 1896 to provide facilities and opportunities for the miners and steelmen of the area. Much later, Rowe Harding was himself a founder member and finally president of the Crawshay's Welsh XV, founded "to enable men from all walks of life to take part in a rugby tour", men who might not otherwise be able to afford to travel away for any length of time. Rugby was thought of as a great help in knitting together a tight social fabric in Wales with no class distinctions.

Rowe Harding was chairman and president of Glamorgan County Cricket Club. He sat on numerous committees, councils of institutions and charities in Wales. His was a gentle, quietly influential, contribution. He was a man of many parts, contesting Swansea East as a Liberal National in the general election of 1945. In the general elections of 1950 and 1951 he was parliamentary candidate in the National Liberal and Conservative interest for Gower. On all those occasions he was unsuccessful against Labour. Harding was also chairman of Swansea Porcelain.

His abiding love, though, was rugby football. He was vice-president of the Welsh Rugby Union from 1953 to 1956. He had written in 1929 that as a body it needed business acumen "to guide the destiny of Welsh rugby... a task for which some of the sitting members are not fitted either by education or experience... A broader, more intelligent outlook is needed and that need will be fulfilled only when the intellectual standard of the Welsh Union is raised." His charm could easily allow him the freedom of such censure and yet not lose the respect of the close community he treasured.

He leaves a widow, Betty, a son and a daughter.

LUCIE MANÊN

Lucie Manên (Frau Otto John), singing teacher, died at Igls, near Innsbruck, on February 2 aged 91. She was born on December 4, 1899.

LUCIE Manén was a fine teacher whose remarkable researches into the history and psycho-physiology of Italianate voice production have greatly enriched our understanding of how to sing. She was herself a lyric soprano of some distinction before the second world war. She was a pupil of Anna Shoen-René, who had studied with Pauline Viardot.

Her career included appearances in Max Reinhardt productions in Berlin in the 1930s and an engagement at the Leipzig Opera. When the Nazis came to power she fled to England, and appeared as Cherubino during the first season at Glyndebourne in 1934. Later she toured in various roles with the Universal Grand Opera, and gave recitals of lieder.

The war interrupted her career and she went on to qualify as a physiotherapist. After the war she became a singing teacher and made an extensive study in London and Oxford of the methods of the past, particularly those of the elder Garcia, and of the scientific basis of singing. She also worked in Germany, Milan and at the Sorbonne in Paris. She then taught privately and at the Dartington summer school and at the Britten-Pears school at Snape.

Her ideas were set out in her manual *The Art of Singing* (1974) and in *Bel Canto* (1987). Among well-known singers who acknowledged the quality of her work are Elizabeth Harwood, Sir Geraint Evans and Thomas Hemsley. Sir Peter Pears, at a stage in his career when he was having vocal problems, was much helped by her wise, scientifically based advice, and frequently acknowledged the fact.

She had two children by her first marriage. She is survived by her devoted second husband, Dr Otto John, who greatly assisted her in the preparation of her books, and by a daughter.

Dinners

HMS Collingwood
Rear-Admiral D.K. Bawtree, Flag Officer Portsmouth, was the guest of honour at a St Valentine's ladies' night dinner held last night in HMS Collingwood. Commander D.A. Raines presided.

HMS Daedalus
Rear-Admiral C.H.D. Cooke-Priest, Flag Officer Naval Aviation, was the guest of honour at a ladies' night dinner held last night in HMS Daedalus. Commander A.R. Welton presided.

University of Wales Air Squadron
Lord Morris of Castle Morris, Principal of St David's University College, Lampeter, Air Chief Marshal Sir Brendan Jackson, Air Member for Supply and Organisation, were the guests of honour at the annual dinner of the University of Wales Air Squadron held last night at RAF St Athan. Squadron Leader Ian Draper, commanding officer, presided. Among others present were:

Air Vice-Marshal R M Austin (Air Officer Commanding and Commandant, RAF College Cranwell), Air Commodore R H Kyle (Air Officer Wales) and Professor Brian Clarkson (principal, University College of Swansea).

Westminster Dining Club
Mrs Elizabeth Peacock, MP, presided at a dinner of the Westminster Dining Club held last night at the House of Commons. Mrs Angela Rumbold, Minister of State at the Home Office, was the principal speaker and Dr Marjorie England also spoke.

Royal College of Radiologists
The President of the Royal College of Radiologists and Mrs Craig were the hosts at a dinner held last night at 38 Portland Place for members of council and their guests.

London Watsonian Club
The Bishop of Edinburgh attended the annual dinner of the London Watsonian Club held last night at the Caledonian Club. Mr Peter Goldsmith, president, presided. Mr Frank Gerstenberg, Principal of George Watson's College, Edinburgh, was among others present.

Chambers of Robert Watson
The Chambers of Mr Robert Watson, entertained Mr Robert Seymour at a dinner at Rules Restaurant yesterday, to mark his appointment as a Deputy Judge Advocate.

Old Crosbeians
Mr R. Derek A. Pape, President of the Old Crosbeians (Merchant Taylors' Old Boys' Association), presided at a London dinner held last night at the Naval and Military Club. Mr S.J.R. Dawkins, Headmaster of Merchant Taylors' School, Crosby, Lieutenant-Colonel M.J. Dickinson and Mr B. Trafford, Headmaster of Wolverhampton Grammar School, also spoke.

Receptions

HM Government
Lord James Douglas-Hamilton, Minister for Home Affairs and the Environment at the Scottish Office, was host at a reception given by Her Majesty's Government last night at New St Andrew's House, Edinburgh, to mark "The Carrying Stream" exhibition and the 40th birthday of Edinburgh University's School of Scottish Studies.

HM Government
Mr Michael Forsyth, Minister of State at the Scottish Office, was host at a reception given by Her Majesty's Government last night at the Highland College of Nursing, Inverness, for employees of the Highland Health Board.

Allowing churches to grow old gracefully

By RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

MEDIEVAL churches should be allowed to fall into ruin rather than be sold for conversion to houses, according to a report on Norfolk churches.

The Bishop of Norwich's commission on rural church buildings calls for realism about the wisdom of continuing to preserve some churches, but urges parishes to make every effort to keep open a church. It also says that financial help should be available from the State.

In its report, the commission says: "Our enquiries show that sometimes only one or two families are keeping a particular church going." That can be enough for the church to revive in the future. "But when a church is closed, its life is then very difficult to restore." The commission recommends that no churches be sold for conversion.

Churches in the Norwich diocese include some of the nation's most prized medieval ecclesiastical buildings. The report says that medieval churches must be preserved, either as they are or as controlled ruins, as conversion would not be appropriate for churches surrounded by churchyards in remote areas.

The report says the problem of ancient churches is a historical and not an ecclesiastical one. "If Christianity came to England for the first time now, no one would dream of building all the church buildings that our diocese has cared for for so long. Part of this task must now pass to the State." The Church can no longer "subsidise churches which cannot be maintained for regular worship".

Rural Church Buildings; (Bishop's House, Norwich, NR3, £2.50, cheques payable to Anne French Fund)

Forthcoming marriages

Mr S.A. Bennett
and Miss J.A. Swann
The engagement is announced between Simon Alastair, son of Mr and Mrs L.J. Bennett, of Middle Manor, Little Berkhamsted, and Jane Ann, daughter of Mr and Mrs J.R. Swann, of Sherwood, Waltham on the Wolds.

Mr N.W. Bromley-Davenport
and Miss E.L. Barnes
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, only son of Mr and Mrs William Bromley-Davenport, of The Kennels, Capesthorne, Cheshire, and Emma, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Richard Barnes, of Blease Cottage, Ollerton, Cheshire.

Mr J.E.F. Down
and Miss A.E.M. Bean
The engagement is announced between Julien Edward Francis, only son of Mrs M.C. Down, of Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol, and Anne Elizabeth Mary, only daughter of Mr and Mrs M.I. Bean, of Olveston, Bristol.

Mr P. Martin
and Miss N.A. Davis
The engagement is announced between Paul, son of Mrs D. and the late Mr R. Martin, of Kensington, and Nicola, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs J. Davis, of Cheltenham.

Marriage

Dr the Hon J. Mackay
and Miss M.E. McArthur
The marriage took place yesterday in the Chapel of The Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, of Dr the Hon James Mackay, son of Lord and Lady Mackay of Clashfern, to Miss Marion McArthur, daughter of Mr and Mrs J.E. McArthur, of Edinburgh. The Rev T.S. McGregor officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Emma Campbell and the Hon Ruth Mackay. Dr Nicholas Chalmers was best man.

A reception was held at the Carlton Highland Hotel, Edinburgh.

Appointment

Admiral Sir Nicholas Hunt to be Director-General of the General Council of British Shipping.

Church services for tomorrow: First Sunday in Lent

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 9.30 M. 11 S Euch, Missa Nigra Sum (Palestrina), Peccata mea (Lassus), Rev J H R de Saumarez: 3.15 E, Responses (Barten), Short Service (Gibbons), Suscipe quaeso (Tallis): 6.30 Sermon & Compline, Rev J H R de Saumarez.

YORK MINSTER: 8, 8.45 HC: 10 S Euch, O Magnum mysterium (Victoria), O Vos omnes (Victoria), Canon J Toy: 11.30 M, Wesley in E, Benedicite (Lloyd): 4 E, St Paul's Service (Howells), Never weather beaten sail (Shephard), Canon R Hockley.

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 10.30 M, Responses (Morley), Sumsion in B flat, Stanford in B flat, Ven G Cassidy: 11.30 HC, Missa Bella Amfitrit' altera (Lassus), Call to remembrance (Farrant): 3.15 E, Bairstow in D, Civitas sancti tui (Byrd), Very Rev J Gladwin.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY: 8 HC: 10 M, Rev Dr A Harvey: 11.15 Abbey Euch, Rev A Luff: 3 E, Rev S Davis: 5.45 Organ Recital, David Woodcock: 6.30 ES, Rev P Bates.

SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL: 9 HC: 11 Euch, Four-part mass (Byrd), Remember not Lord our offences (Purcell), Call to remembrance (Farrant), Canon M Kitchen: 3 E, Sumsion in A, Hear my prayer (Mendelssohn), Rev N Worn.

WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL: 7, 8, 9, 10.30 SM, Peccantem me quotidie (Palestrina), Like as the hart (Howells), 12, 5.30, 7: 3 RCIA Rite of Election.

ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL, Southwark: 8, 10 (Children's), 6 LM: 11.30 HM, Fr M Jones.

GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL OF THE DIVINE WISDOM, Moscow Rd, W2: 9.30 M: 11 Divine Liturgy.

RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL OF THE DORMITION OF THE MOTHER OF GOD, Ennismore Gdns, SW7: 10.30 Divine Liturgy.

SERBIAN ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL OF ST SAVVA, Lancaster Rd, W11: 10.30 Divine Liturgy.

THE CHAPEL ROYAL, St James's Palace: 8.30 HC: 11.15 MP, Salvator mundi (Blow), Canon J F Hester.

QUEEN'S CHAPEL OF THE SAVOY, WC2: 11 M, Lamentations (Bairstow), Remember not Lord our offences (Purcell), Rev T Gardiner: 12.30 HC.

GUARDS CHAPEL, Wellington Barracks, SW1: 11 M, O Maker of the World give ear (Plainsong), Miserere (Allegri). The Chaplain. The Blues & Royals: 12 HC.

LINCOLN'S INN CHAPEL: 11.30 MP, Ave verum (Elgar), Canon G Jones.

TOWER OF LONDON, EC3: 9.15 HC: 11 M, Responses (Tallis), Benedicite (Purcell), The ways of Sion do Mourn (Wise), Fr R Gould.

TEMPLE CHURCH, Fleet Street, EC4: 8.30 HC: 11.15 MP, Hear my prayer O Lord (Purcell), Responses (Smith), Sumsion in B flat, Walford Davies in G, Remember O Lord (Walmisley). The Master.

ST CLEMENT DANES (RAF Church) WC2: 9, 12.15 HC: 11 MP, Jackson in G, Stanford in A, Hear my prayer (Purcell), Rev D Harvey.

CHAPEL ROYAL, Hampton Court Palace: 8.30 HC: 11 M, Sumsion & Healey Willan in B flat, Lord for thy tender mercies sake (Farrant/Hilton): 3.30 E, Miserere mei (Byrd), Short Service (Gibbons), Hear my prayer (Mendelssohn).

ALL HALLOWS BY THE TOWER: 11 S Euch, Rev I Thurston.

ALL SAINTS, Margaret Street, W1: 8, 8.15 LM: 11 HM, Mass for five voices (Byrd), Cast me not away (Wesley), Rev J S W Young: 6 E & B, The Short Service (Morley), Salvator mundi (Tallis). The Vicar.

ALL SOULS, Langham Place, W1: 11 World Mission Sunday, Mr Lindsey Brown of IFES: 6.30 Preb R Bewes.

CHELSEA OLD CHURCH, Old Church Street, SW3: 8, 12 HC: 10 Children's Service: 11 M, Rev J H L Cross: 6 E, Preb C E L Thomson.

CHRIST CHURCH, CHELSEA, SW3: 8 HC: 11 S Euch, Rev D Watson.

GROSVENOR CHAPEL, South Audley Street: 8.15 HC: 11 S Euch, Mass for four voices (Byrd), In ieiunio et fletu (Tallis), Charles Brown.

HOLY TRINITY, Brompton Road, SW7: 10.30 Family & Communion Service, Mr J Jennings: 6.30 Informal Service, Rev J A K Millar.

HOLY TRINITY, Prince Consort Road, SW7: 8.30 HC: 11 HC, Rev Dr M Israel.

HOLY TRINITY, Sloane Street, SW1: 8.45: 11 S Euch, Rev K Yates.

ST BRIDE'S, Fleet Street, EC4: 11 M & Euch, Short Service (Gibbons), Whitlock in G, Tantum ergo (de Severac), Canon J Oates: 6.30 E, Responses (Smith), Fifth Service (Tomkins), O Lord in thy wrath (Gibbons), Fr G Burns.

ST CUTHBERT'S, Philbeach Gardens SW5: 10 HC: 11 S Euch, Darke in A Minor, Lord for thy tender mercies' sake (Farrant), Rev J Vine: 6.30 Healing Service, Rev C Coward.

ST GEORGE'S, Bloomsbury, WC1: 10 Parish Communion: 6.30 E.

ST GEORGE'S, Hanover Square, W1: 8.30 HC: 11 S Euch, Kelly in C, Very Rev J McCarthy.

ST GILES-IN-THE-FIELDS, St Giles High St, WC2: 8, 12 HC: 11 MP, Rev G C Taylor: 6.30 EP, Rev G C Taylor.

ST JAMES'S, Muswell Hill, N10: 8 HC: 11 Family Service, Preb M Bunker: 6.30 HC.

ST JAMES'S, Piccadilly, W1: 8.30 HC: 11 S Euch: 5.45 EP.

ST JAMES'S, Sussex Gardens, W2: 8 HC: 10.30 S Euch, Mass of the Quiet Hour (Oldroyd), Ah helpless wretch (Mundy): 6 E, Farrant in A minor, Nolo mortem (Morley). Taize service.

ST JOHN'S, Hyde Park Crescent, W2: 8 HC: 10 Parish Euch with Children's Church, Canon T Birchard: 6.30 Evening Worship, Canon T Birchard.

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, Holland Rd, W14: 10 LM: 11 SM, Fr G Bright: 6 V & B.

ST JOHN THE DIVINE, Vassall Rd, SW9: 8 LM: 10 HM, Windhaeger (Bruckner), How goodly are thy tents (Gore Ouseley): 4 E & B.

ST JOHN'S WOOD CHURCH, NW8: 8 HC: 9.30 Parish Communion: 11 S Euch, Sumsion in F, Cast me not away (Wesley). The Vicar.

ST LUKE'S, Chelsea, SW3: 8, 12.15 HC: 10.30 S Euch, Byrd in four voices, St John Passion (Bach), Rev S Acland: 6.30 E, Miserere (Allegri), Rev D Brown.

ST MARK'S, Regents Park Rd, NW1: 8 HC: 10 Family Communion: 11 S Euch, The Short Service (Batten), Lord we beseech thee (Batten), Rev T Devonshire Jones.

ST MARGARET'S, Westminster, SW1: 11 M, Audi benigne Conditor, Responses (Ayleward), Jackson in G, The sorrows of my heart (Boyce), Rev R Holloway: 12.15 HC.

ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS, WC2: 8, 12.30 HC: 9.45 Euch, Super flumina (Palestrina), Agnus Dei (Byrd), Canon D Gray: 11.30 Visitors to London Service, Rev J Pridmore: 2.45 Chinese Service (HC), Rev Dr J Bennett: 5 E, Ave Maria (Faure), Responses (Goodenough), Sumsion in G, Cantique de Jean Racine: 6.30 ES, Healing Service. The Vicar.

ST MARY'S, Bourne Street, SW1: 9, 9.45, 7 LM: 11 HM, Missa Emendemus (Palestrina), Canon R Greenacre: 6.15 E & B.

ST MARYLEBONE, Marylebone Road, W1: 8 HC: 11 Euch, Missa a tribus vocibus (Byrd), Salvator mundi (Blow), Rev J Chater: 6 E.

ST MARY-LE-STRAND (WRNS Church), Strand WC2: 11 Sung Communion, Rev E Thompson.

ST MICHAEL'S, Chester Square, SW1: 8.15 HC: 11 MP, Rev J Crossley: 7 ES & HC, Rev N Taylor.

ST MICHAEL'S, Cornhill, EC3: 11 Euch, Litany (Tallis), Four voices (Byrd), Emendemus in melius (Byrd).

ST PAUL'S, Wilton Place, SW1: 8, 9 HC: 11 S Euch, Missa primi toni (Palestrina), Sing unto the Lord (Gibbons), A Hymn to God the Father (Humfrey), Rev H Ruschmeyer.

ST PETER'S, Eaton Square, SW1: 8.15 HC: 10 Family Mass: 11 SM, Missa in illo tempore (Monteverdi), Cast me not away (Wesley).

ST SIMON ZELOTES, Milner Street, SW3: 8 HC: 11 Parish Communion (Tallis), Salvator mundi (Blow), Ave verum (Lassus), Very Rev T E Evans: 6.30 E, Rev G James.

ST STEPHEN'S, Gloucester Road, SW7: 8, 9 LM: 11 SM, Messe ohne Gloria und Credo (Bruckner), Manum suam misit hostis (Couperin), Fr J Towers: 6 Stations of the Cross & B.

ST VEDAST, Foster Lane, EC2: 11 SM. The Rector.

THE ANNUNCIATION, Bryanston Street, W1: 10.15 Stations of the Cross: 11 SM, Missa Secunda (Hassler), Peccantem me quotidie (de Monte): 6 LM & B.

ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Pont Street, SW1: 11 Rev J H McIndoe: 6.30 Rev S Dunleavy.

CROWN COURT CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Covent Garden, WC2: 11.15, 6.30 Rev H G Ross.

THE ASSUMPTION, Warwick Street, W1: 11, Missa quo abiit dilectus tuus (Manchicourt), Amicus meus (Victoria), Unus ex discipulis meis (Victoria).

CHURCH OF OUR LADY, Lisson Grove, St John's Wood: 10.45, Missa Cuiusvis toni (Ockeghem), Miserere nostri (Tallis).

FARM STREET, W1: 7.30, 8.30, 10, 12.15, 4.15, 6.15 LM: 11 HM, Missa super Frere Thibault (Lassus), Stabat mater: Quando corpus (Pergolesi).

THE ORATORY, Brompton Road, SW7: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 Mass, Missa Jesu nostra redemptio (Palestrina), Super flumina Babylonis (Victoria): 12.30, 4.30, 7: 3.30 V & B, Miserere mei (Victoria).

ST MARY'S, Cadogan Street, SW3: 8.30, 10, 11 Mass, Missa simplex (Lotti), Ave verum (Byrd), O Sacrum Convivium (Farrant): 12.15, 6.30.

OUR LADY OF VICTORIES, Kensington High Street, W8: 8.30, 10, 12.30, 6.30 LM: 11.15 SM, Missa Emendemus (Palestrina), Miserere mei ([illegible]), Passacaglia in D minor (Buxtehude).

AMERICAN CHURCH IN LONDON, Tottenham Court Rd, W1: 11 Rev Ron F Allison.

CITY TEMPLE, Holborn, EC1: 10.30 Rev E Waugh.

HINDE STREET METHODIST CHURCH, W1: 11 Rev P Hoar: 6.30 Rev M Rothwell.

KENSINGTON TEMPLE (Charismatic), Notting Hill Gate, W11: 9, Communion: Wynne Lewis: 11, Celebration, Wynne Lewis: 2.30, 6.30, Baptism, Terry Crist: 9 Guest Evening.

REGENT SQUARE URC (Presbyterian/Congregational), Tavistock Place, WC1: 11 FURY Service: 6.30 Rev K Swaine.

SALVATION ARMY (Regent Hall), Oxford St W1: 11 Major C Hunt: 3 Music: 6.30 Major M Hunt.

ST ANDREW'S URC, Frognal Lane NW3: 11 Rev Dr P Morgan.

ST ANNE AND ST AGNES (Lutheran), Gresham St, EC2: 11 HC, Very Rev W [illegible]: 7 Bach V, Rev M Meech.

ST JOHN'S WOOD URC, NW8: 11 Rev W C McCrorie.

WESLEY'S CHAPEL, City Road, EC2: 9.45 HC: 11 Morning Service, Rev P Hulme.

WESTMINSTER CENTRAL HALL (Methodist), SW1: 11, Rev Dr K G Greet: 6.30, Rev Dr R J Tudor.

WESTMINSTER CHAPEL, Buckingham Gate SW1: 11; 6.30 Rev Dr R T Kendall.

WESTMINSTER MEETING SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (Quakers), 52 St Martins La WC2: 11, Meeting for worship.

[illegible]

For we have heard the Good News, just as they did. They heard the message, but it did them no good, because when they heard it they did not accept it with faith.
Hebrews 4:2 GNB

BIRTHS

ASTLEY BIRTWISTLE - On February 14th, to April (nee Younghusband) and Pip, a son, James, a brother for Edward and Amelia.

BANNER - On February 11th, to Catherine (nee Scarr) and Roderick, a son, Thomas Gordon Renforth.

BRIDGE-DANK - On February 10th 1991, in York, to Carol and Richard, a daughter, Jessica Emily, a sister for Rebecca.

CURRAN - On January 27th, to Alison (née Kaye) and Peter, a son, James Peter.

DE VOIL - On February 10th, at West Middlesex University Hospital, to Nina (nee Hook) and Nick, a son, Henry Edward Benedict (Harry).

EVANS - On February 10th 1991, to Sue (nee Croft) and Mark, a son, Maximilian Alexander John, a brother for Emily.

FAULKNER - On February 8th at John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, to Margaret (Maggie) and David, a son, Alexander George, a brother for Gary, Gavin and Kathryn. Our thanks to the team at the Radcliffe.

FRANZ - On February 14th, at The Portland Hospital, to Ernesto and Patrizia, a daughter, Claudia, a sister for Stefano.

GOUGH - On February 13th, to Paula (née Rice) and Ian, a daughter, Annabel Rose, a sister for Charlie.

HUGHES - On February 14th, to Sharon (nee Morpeth) and Ian, a daughter, Kathleen Morag.

MANBY - On February 13th 1991, to Julie and Peter, a daughter, Chloe Amelia, a sister for Sophie.

McBAIN - On February 8th 1991, to Georgina (nee Newell) and Rupert, a daughter.

McLEAN - On February 8th, at Aberdeen Maternity Hospital, to Margaret and Hamish a son, Neil Malcolm, a brother for Alison and grandson for Callum and Elizabeth McLean of Breda.

ORR - On February 12th, at The Rosie, Cambridge, to Bryan and Fiona, a daughter, Charlotte Venetia Rosalind, a longed for sister for Katherine. Special thanks to staff at The Rosie.

POLLARD - On February 13th, to Mark and Fiona (née Mackintosh), a son, Charles Edward Mackintosh, a brother for Hayley.

RENTON - On February 12th 1991, to Caroline and Nick, a son, Joshua Nicholas, a brother for Alan and Zoë.

STOGDON - On February 14th 1991 at the Royal Hampshire County Hospital Winchester, to Sarah (née Barker) and Giles, a son, Alexander, a brother for Georgina.

VIEBAHN - On February 11th, 1991, to Victoria (née Hackforth-Jones) and Christoph, of Elbestrasse 6, 6300 Bonn 1, a son, Konrad Gilbert Heinrich, a brother for Johannes and Emanuel.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES

WRIGHT:FRANCIS - At St Paul's Cathedral, Namirembe, Kampala, on 15th February 1941, Blanche Aline Francis to Armine Charles Ainsworth Wright of Uganda Administration and 3rd/4th King's African Rifles.

DEATHS

BOURDILLON - On February 14th 1991, peacefully in hospital, Henry (Harry) Townsend Bourdillon, C.M.G. Beloved husband of Margareta, much loved father of Karin, Cecilia, Kristina and Bernard and cherished grandfather of eleven. Private cremation. Service of Remembrance at Holy Trinity Church, Bledlow, nr. Princes Risborough, at 2.30 pm on Saturday February 23rd. No flowers please but donations, if desired, to Oxfam, 274 Banbury Road, Oxford.

CAVE - On February 13th 1991, peacefully after a short illness, Gordon beloved husband of Hazel. Funeral on Thursday February 21st, Mortlake Crematorium at 11.30 am. Family flowers only, donations if desired to Kidney Research Aid Fund. All enquiries to W S. Bond Ltd., 19 Bond Street, Ealing, W5 5AP tel. (081) 567-0422.

COTTER - On February 13th, peacefully at home, Eveline Mary, cherished wife of Lt. Colonel Sir Delaval Cotter and much loved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Private cremation, followed by a Service of Thanksgiving at St Mary's, Shroton, at 12 noon on Saturday March 2nd. Enquiries to Colin J. Close (F D), tel: (0258) 453133.

DAVIES - On February 13th, suddenly but peacefully in hospital, Doris Merton, dearly beloved wife of Ivan, very much loved mother of Julie and Charles, adored grandmother of Antonia and William. Funeral at St Leonard's Church, Chesham Bois, Bucks., on Friday February 22nd at 2 pm, followed by committal at Chiltern Crematorium, Amersham. Enquiries to James Crook Ltd., 259 Kilburn High Road, NW6.

DAYSH - On February 13th, at King's College Hospital, London, Walter Athol, aged 68, dearly loved father of Nicholas, Elizabeth, Timothy and Philip. Funeral Service at Honor Oak Crematorium, Wednesday February 20th at 3.30 pm, interment Saturday February 23rd at 4 o'clock, Waterperry Church, Oxford.

FAIRBROTHER - On February 15th, peacefully at Mayday Hospital, Croydon, Hilda, aged 76, dearly loved mother of Ian, Silvia and Carole. Funeral Service at Croydon Crematorium, Thursday February 21st at 11 am. No flowers please, donations to the R.N.L.I.

FLOWER - On February 11th, suddenly at home, Patricia Sara. Desperately missed and loved by John, Virginia and Charles. Flowers to Harris & Barnes, Liphook, Hants, or donations to N.S.P.C.C. Service at St Mary's, Bramshott, nr Liphook, at 2.30 pm on Tuesday February 19th.

GOLDIE - On January 12th 1991, suddenly, L.F.E. (Fred) in Fayetteville, U.S.A., loving husband of Sheila. Professor Emeritus of Law at Syracuse University, Specialist in International Law.

GREIFFENHAGEN - On February 12th, in Cheltenham, Maurice Rodney. Funeral Service on Tuesday February 19th at Cheltenham Crematorium at 1 pm.

HAYNES DE SPERRY - On February 10th, peacefully, Marion, wife of Andre, beloved mother of Claude, granny of Natalie and Sylvine. Private cremation, but if desired, donations to Help the Aged, Freepost, London EC1B 1BD.

HAY - On February 14th 1991, at St Michael's Hospice, Hereford, Helen, aged 79 years, of Tarrington, Herefordshire. Funeral Service at Tarrington Church on Thursday February 21st at 11 am followed by cremation. Flowers or donations for St Michael's Hospice, to B. Hawcutt F.D., Holmesdale, Newbury Park, Ledbury, Herefordshire (0531) 2084.

SAILLARD-PRATT - On February 14th 1991, peacefully in hospital, in her 89th year, following a brief illness, Dr. Mady Hilde (née Laucher), widow of the late Captain Philip Peregrine Saillard-Pratt. Funeral Service at Mortlake Crematorium on Thursday February 21st at 4 pm. No flowers at Mady's request, but donations please to Medical Research. Enquiries to T.H. Sanders and Sons Ltd., tel: (081) 948-1651.

SIMPSON - On February 12th, Mrs D.M. (Bob), widow of Tom, quietly at Oakcrest Nursing Home, Leeds. Much loved mother of Shirley and Thomas and grandmother of Michael, Neil and Julia. Service in Leeds Parish Church on Thursday February 21st at 2.30 pm, prior to private cremation at Lawnswood at 3.50 pm. No flowers by request. Enquiries tel: Leeds (0532) 482058.

STENHOUSE - On February 14th 1991, Barbara Heath, dearly loved wife of Sir Nicol Stenhouse. Cremation private. Service of Thanksgiving at St Mary's, Sixpenny Handley, on Friday February 22nd at 2.30 pm. No flowers, if desired donations for Macmillan Unit at Odstock c/o Richard T. Adlem Funeral Director, Sixpenny Handley, near Salisbury.

TOMS - On February 13th, peacefully in Wren Park Nursing Home, Thomas Henry, beloved husband of Molly, much loved father of Carole and Neil and grandfather of Samantha, Emma, Lucy, Daniel, James, Henry and Alexander. Funeral Service at Shirley Methodist Church, Croydon, on Thursday February 21st at 11 am. Donations, if desired, to Imperial Cancer Research Fund.

WEST - On February 13th, at home, Dudley Erskine Somerset West, aged 86, late of the 22nd Cheshire Regiment, after a long illness very bravely borne. Funeral Putney Vale Crematorium at 1.30 pm on Thursday February 21st. No flowers.

WHITEHEAD - On February 16th 1991, in Harwich Hospital, Kenneth James, Major M.C., Somerset Light Infantry. Much missed by family and friends.

WIGGS - On February 13th, peacefully in Ashtead Hospital, Peter, aged 70, of Cobham, beloved husband of Dorothy, dear father of Sheila and David and much loved grandfather. Service private. Donations if desired to The Parkinsons Disease Society, 36 Portland Place, London W1N 3DG.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

BABIR-ALAI - Rahmatollah, on this and every day his memory lives on.

DURGNAN - John Joseph, F.R.Met.S. Schoolmaster. Died February 17th 1984. B.S.D. and E.M.S.D.

FINDON - In loving memory of Charlotte, died February 16th 1990. Beloved daughter of Lynda and Benjamin, granddaughter of Jackie and Max and sister of Ben Jnr.

Birth and Death notices may be accepted over the telephone.

For publication the following day please telephone by 5.00pm Monday to Thursday, 4pm Friday, 9.30am-1.00pm Saturday for Monday's paper.

071 481 4000

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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ROGER - And Melanie Celebrate the second anniversary of happiness with Thomas Shane in their hearts and lives.

STUDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALISON, just to let the whole country know, I love you. Luke xxxxxxx.

AMIGA 3000 (25MHz, 40meg hard disc) + super VGA multi-sync monitor. £2500 979 9655

ANGELA - LL happy valentine. I love you, Sebastian.

ATARI 520STM (1M comp. Mouse, mono-monitor, 2nd drive, games. £350. 081 802 7011

CHIN-AI my dearest Valentine. How happy I am to be with you.

CHRISTINE I'll make you breakfast next time. Sorry. John.

CLARINET Boosey & Hawkes excellent condition. 1 owner. Bargain £195.00. 081 868 8507

COMMODORE 64 for sale. Approx 100 games £120 ono. B'ham 356 1211

CORINNE, Love you very much. Looking forward to our future. Love Andy. xxxxx.

DALE my valentine? Still love you loads, after all this time. Liz.

DENCO Stud. hire for valentines day but I love you anyway. Erin xxxxx.

DESPERATELY wanted 2 tickets Harry Connick Jr concert. Manchester 17/3 061 928 2847

DYSO 1985 eight months MOT needs attention. hence price £90. Telephone 0634 400586

EMMA: 21 at last! All my love forever, Chrissie.

EMPLOYMENT wanted for hard working student couple during summer. Dan 081 226 7144.

ENGAGEMENT Stuart Karner & Katy Travers announce their engagement Valentines day '91

FLUTE Evette, very good condition, lockable case, £100 ono 0517220818.

GARY, I love you, sorry this is late. Love from Lorraine.

GOLF clubs, full set including trolley, bag, balls, good as new £120 671 4280.

9 GOLF clubs in golf bag. Good condition £65. 061 962 8498

HARRY Harry: Will you be my lovely cream bun again? Love, Jonathan.

HAPPY birthday Dad. Thanks for everything. Love you loads. Libby xxxxxx.

HELP - Spanish linguaphone course read desperately! Please call David: 071 354 3603

HUMAN skull wanted for dental student. Real or artificial. Tel: 021 478 2143.

IMMACULATE room between commons prof. M/F N/S £55/wk. 071 228 1038 aft 6.30

JANE Leach, happy belated birthday Mum. Lots of love, Eleanor.

JILL, happy 17th birthday 21/02/91. Take care of the car! Love Marion.

JOHN, happy valentines day and 5th anniversary on the 14th. Becky xxxxx.

KEIR, missing you always. Think of me today. Love Chewy xx.

L.G. - I hope we can sort it all out. Love - Bunny woo.

LADIES skiwear for sale. Jacket and salopettes size 12 mint. Phone 041 647 7692

LAURENCE: A million kisses is never to much: I love you: Debbie

MARINA 1300cc 1980 good runner, body needs attention, hence £325 ono. 081 884 2441.

MICHAELLA to my Valentine thanks for everything. I love you. Michael.

MORRIS minor 1000 1960. Valuable plate, new parts. Bargain £2800. 0703582608.

MUM thankyou for being you. Lots of love Esther in Ridge.

MY DARLING Catherine lots of love for Valentines day, your lover Anil.xxxx

PAUL Blundell, happy Valentine's Day, from the girl who loves you most.

POOKY, here's looking at you. Gam.

REPORTS, essays etc. Professionally typed. From £2. Phone Eva 3193977 after 6pm.

ROS. Yes The Times is glad to announce "I love you!" - Mike

SAM B here's to many happy times with all my love Anna.

SIERRA 1.6, red, E reg, maintained, superb, illness forces sale. £4,000 0278 782789.

STEREO midi system for sale £100, £200 new, phone 0932 228186.

STEVE Mattey needed for event. Contact Katherine for details. Je t'aime.

ST/LC will you always be my Valentine? I'll love you forever. JS.xxxxx

STUDENT seeks work. Evening /w/end. Anything Considered. Glasgow area. 041 647 7692

TIMESHARE: Portugal. For sale or rental. More details 573 1179 (day) 674 1260 (Eve)

UNWANTED gift. Top leather jacket, £200 as new 0814466167.

WATERS, Jenny happy 17th birthday for 19th Feb. Love Helen.

WOMI Two years are not enough. I love you. Mad Rabbit Woman. xx.

BIRTHDAYS

STEPHEN SEDGWICK

Many congratulations on your 21st, very best wishes for the future. Always thinking of you, *take great care.*
Dad

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ANTIQUES AND COLLECTING

BOOK - The Survey of Cornwall. by Richard Carew of Antonie. Printed by John Jaggard. London. 1602. Bought at Christie's, April 1897. £700.00. Tel:0278-652 424.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

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SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

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ADVENTURE. Unfettered mid-forties man. Tall, attractive, seeks fit, educated mid-thirties lady companion. Objective, travel writing. Driving, photography skills, essential. Share costs. C.V. & photo. Please Reply to Box No 2804

AN ENTERTAINING MAN. What fun it would be to meet the above in his early sixties. I am a country loving widow seeking friendship and companionship. Interested in bridge, travelling, music and stimulating conversation. Please Reply to Box No 2779

ATTRACTIVE slim, dark, sensual lady, 32, seeks tall, rugged, solvent gentleman with a passion for fine wines, food, the arts, mountains and Irish Wolfhounds. Please Reply to Box No 2783

ATTRACTIVE - Intelligent European Lady. 5'6". Interests inc. Music & country side. Seeks caring partner 35-48, ready to settle down. Must be GL. N/S, practical & solvent. Reply with photo to Box No 2772

ATTRACTIVE French lady, slim, petite, brunette, educated, golfer, smoker looks for genuine, interesting, caring, unattached gentleman. Please Reply to Box No 2767

SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

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071 287 0935

ROUND THE WORLD OR BUST.

I am a 36 yr old divorced, male company director, fed up with the Recession and in a position to fulfill a lifetime ambition of travelling the World in my reliable, comfortable, converted double decker bus. I would be interested in hearing from 2 men's crew. x5 female potential team members. Please write with any qualifications and or qualities you may have to offer coupled with the ability to put up a minimum of £8,000 each into the tour kitty. Anticipated leaving date April. Please write in the 1st instance to "Curly" Arimas Metals Group, "Chess House", Latimer Rd, Chesham Bucks. HP5 1QQ.

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CAMBRIDGE Slim attractive, solvent professional woman, early 40.s seeks tall outgoing male Graduate under 48 Photo please. Reply to Box No 2798

CASTAWAY? Business man Crusoe, tall, attractive, young 44, resident Bucks has won a holiday for two in luxury/sporty resort, British Virgin Islands, March/April and seeks beautiful, intelligent, fun-loving Girl Friday, 25 to 35, with keen sense of humour to share it to the full. Please write with recent photo to Box No 2776

EDUCATED Professional country loving lady, early 40s seeks gentleman to share the good things in life. Edinburgh area. Please Reply to Box No 2813

EUROPEAN attractive lady, 32, sophisticated, well-travelled, professional, new in London, seeks gentleman for company/romance. Please Reply to Box No 2809

FEMALE Graduate, 42, 5'6, slim, pretty, seeks male, 42/52 for serious relationship Likes food, arts, London. Photo please. Reply to Box No 2794

GAY 32, attractive, professional, sincere, successful, wealthy, seeks similar successful 40-55 year old male for loving and caring relationship. Own home, car and homes abroad. Varied interests include sport, travel, theatre, art and country weekends. Photo appreciated. Discretion assured. Please Reply to Box No 2830

GENTLEMAN 40, handsome, 5'11", slim, fit, accomplished professional, privately educated, immaculately dressed and groomed, romantic, loyal and caring, seeks friendship /relationship with sophisticated, elegant attractive lady, 30-40. Please Reply to Box No 2753

GENUINE gentleman, 43, self employed professional, based Wilts/ Glos, unattached (partner died 3 yrs ago) after many happy years. Not "hyper this" or "super that" but considerate, honest, personable with a sense of humour, seeks equally sincere lady for long term relationship. Reply to Box No 2718

SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

TWO

BEING SINGLE IS FINE:

As she watched his face in the

BUT NOT ALWAYS IDEAL.

flickering light, he tucked

MEETING SOMEONE

a wisp of hair behind her ear.

SPECIAL

Words tumble

ISN'T ALWAYS EASY

like a pebble brook.

WE UNDERSTAND.

eyes laugh, hands touch.

CALL US AT

The day drifts away

BOND STREET.

like woodsmoke on

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morning mist. Thats two

TWO

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Large twin room all mod cons, 30 sec walk Earls Court Tube, single person, £70 per week, or two people £50 per week each. Deposit required from March 1st. Contact 071 370 4620.

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LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986 and IN THE MATTER OF NECO MARINE LIMITED (IN RECEIVERSHIP)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 48(2) of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a MEETING of the UNSECURED CREDITORS will be held at The Post House Hotel, Herbert Walker Avenue, Southampton SO1 OHJ on Tuesday 26 February 1991 at 10.30 am for the purpose of receiving a report covering the background to and progress of the receivership together with other matters stipulated by Section 48(2) of the Insolvency Act 1986.

Please note that a person is entitled to vote at the meeting only if the provisions of Rule 3.11(1) Insolvency Rules 1986 have been complied with, namely that:

(a) he has given to the receiver not later than 12.00 noon on the business day before the day fixed for the meeting, details in writing of the debt that he claims to be due to him from the company, and the claim has been duly admitted under the provision of Rule 3.11(2)-(7) and

(b) there has been lodged with the administrative receiver any proxy which the creditor intends to be used on his behalf.

Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or to be represented at the meeting.

Dated this 8th day of February 1991
PE BALDWIN FCA
Joint Administrative Receiver

In the matter of CITICORP SCRIMGEOUR VICKERS LTD. (IN MEMBERS' VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION) COMPANY NUMBER. 1891946 NOTICE TO CREDITORS

On 31 December 1990 the above named company was placed into Members' Voluntary Liquidation and Martin Fishman and Anthony William Brierley both of Arthur Andersen & Co., P.O.Box 55, 1 Surrey Street, London, WC2R 2NT, were appointed Liquidators by the Members.

The Liquidators give notice pursuant to Rule 4.182A of the Insolvency rules 1986 that the creditors of the company must send details, in writing, of any claim against the company to the Liquidators, at the above address, by 16 March 1991.

The Liquidators also give notice under the provision of Rule 4.182A(6) that on 30 March 1991 they intend to make a final return to creditors who have submitted claims by 16 March 1991 and that there will be no further distribution to creditors.

The company is able to pay all of its known creditors in full.

DATED 17 JANUARY 1991
M. FISHMAN and
A.W. BRIERLEY

Notice of appointment of liquidator voluntary winding up (Members)
Company Number: 1891946
Name of Company: CITICORP SCRIMGEOUR VICKERS LIMITED. Previous name of company: SCRIMGEOUR VICKERS & CO. LIMITED. Nature of Business: STOCKBROKERS & EQUITY MARKET MAKERS.
Type of Liquidation: Members
Address of registered office P.O. BOX 55, 1 SURREY STREET, LONDON WC2R 2NT
Liquidators names and address: MARTIN FISHMAN & ANTHONY WILLIAM BRIERLEY BOTH OF: P.O.BOX 55, 1 SURREY STREET, LONDON WC2R 2NT. Office holder numbers 6470 and 5641.
Date of appointment: 31 DECEMBER 1990. By whom appointed: MEMBERS
Date 17.1.91

Notice of appointment of Administrative Receiver Barclyde Limited
Registered number: 1749981
Nature of Business: Property Developers and Managers. Trade classification. 35. Date of appointment of administrative receivers: 11 February 1991.
Name of person appointing the administrative receivers: Westpac Banking Corporation
Colin Graham Bird and Anthony Victor Lomas Joint Administrative Receivers (office holder no(s) 1287 and 7240. Address:
Price Waterhouse
No 1 London Bridge
London SE1 9QL

LEGAL NOTICES

Notice of appointment of liquidator voluntary winding up (Members)
Company Number: 369408
Name of company: PELLBRADUP LIMITED
Previous names of company: THE ANGLO CHEMICAL & ORE CO LIMITED, PHILIPP BROTHERS (BULLION) LIMITED
Nature of business: NON-FERROUS METALS TRADING.
Type of Liquidation: Members
Address of registered office: P.O. BOX 55, 1 SURREY STREET, LONDON WC2R 2NT.
Liquidators name and address: MARTIN FISHMAN, 1 SURREY STREET, LONDON WC2R 2NT
Office holder number 6470 Date of appointment 19 DECEMBER, 1990 By whom appointed: MEMBERS
Date 17.1.91

Notice of appointment of Administrative Receiver HUMBERSIDE PROPERTIES LIMITED
Registered number: 953944
Nature of business: PROPERTY DEVELOPER.
Trade classification: 35
Date of appointment of administrative receivers: 7 FEBRUARY 1991 Name of person appointing the administrative receivers: BANK OF IRELAND GORDON CHRISTOPHER HORSFIELD AND ROGER MARSH (office holder nos 3599/01 and 5928/01) Address:
PRICE WATERHOUSE
9 BOND COURT
LEEDS LS1 2SN

PATTERSON Ruth Helen of 8 Park Close, West Twyford, London NW10 died on 27th November 1990. Particulars to Trowers & Hamlins, Solicitors of 6 New Square, Lincoln's Inn, London WC2A 3RP (ref. MXL 0021 1789 LP) before 17th April 1991

SCHONFIELD, ESTER VIVIENNE of The Lodge, Fitzroy Park, Highgate, London N6 and 55 St John's Court, Finchley Road, London NW3 died on 1st November 1989: Particulars to Simmons & Simmons, Solicitors of 14 Dominion Street, London EC2M 2RJ before 17th April 1991

THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986
TITANLANCE LIMITED (IN RECEIVERSHIP)
EUROTRACTION LIMITED (IN RECEIVERSHIP)
JH HAULAGE LIMITED (IN RECEIVERSHIP)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Rule 3.9 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above companies will be held at the offices of Price Waterhouse, Bridge Gate, 55-57 High Street, Redhill, Surrey RH1 1RX on the 27 day of February 1991 at 10.00 o'clock in the morning. The receivers' report will be presented to the meeting and the opportunity given to elect a committee to represent the creditors.

A creditor will be entitled to vote at the meeting only if details in writing of the debt claimed to be due to him by the company have been given to the Joint Administrative receivers at Price Waterhouse, Bridge Gate, 55/57 High Street, Redhill, Surrey RH1 1RX no later than 12.00 noon on the business day before the day fixed for the meeting, and the claim has been admitted in accordance with the Insolvency Rules 1986.

Creditors may vote either in person or by proxy and a proxy should be lodged with the joint administrative receivers if possible before the meeting. A secured creditor is entitled to vote only in respect of the balance (if any) of his debts after deducting the value of his security as estimated by him. Creditors who are wholly secured are not entitled to be present or to vote.

Date 13 day of February 1991
MD Gercke
Joint Administrative Receiver.

TO PLACE YOUR LEGAL/PUBLIC NOTICE IN THE TIMES

PLEASE TELEPHONE DEBRA GYNN ON

071-782 7344
FAX 071-782 7730

TRUSTEE ACTS

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s27 of the TRUSTEE Act, 1925 that any person having a CLAIM against or an INTEREST in the ESTATE of any of the deceased person's whose names, addresses and descriptions are set out below is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to the person or persons mentioned in relation to the deceased person concerned before the date specified: after which date the estate of the deceased will be distributed by the personal representatives among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

BORIS JULIUS of 37A Kidbrooke Grove, London, SE3 died on 31st January 1986. Particulars to Lee Lane Smith, Solicitors of Bardinia House, 52 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, WC2A 3LZ before 30th April 1991.

LLOYD Mrs Katharine Brenda of Croyland, Watchet Lane, Little Kingshill, Great Missenden, Buckinghamshire HP16 ODR died on 18th September 1990. Particulars to Reynolds Porter Chamberlain, Solicitors of Chichester House, 278/282 High Holborn, London WC1V 7HA before 23rd April 1991.

FEB 16

ON THIS DAY

1887

Sir Henry Acland (1815-1900), president of the General Medical Council, took the occasion of Queen Victoria's Jubilee to recall the state of medicine at her accession. Some teachers, he said, had discouraged the use of stethoscope and microscope; and anaesthetics were practically non-existent.

THE GENERAL MEDICAL COUNCIL

The forty-first session of the General Medical Council was opened yesterday afternoon, when the President, Sir Henry W. Acland, M.D., K.C.B., F.R.S., delivered as usual, an address. A new significance attaches now to the old words *salus populi suprema lex*, he said. Any system of Medicine which should ignore duty to the masses, as well as to the individual is now no Medicine at all; yet most here can remember the time when "polypharmacy", practised sometimes in simplicity, often for the sake of mere lucre, was not uncommon. Some can recall the day when the prevention of disease was considered almost outside the province of an orthodox medicine man.

Suffice it that about the time of the Queen's accession a new era in the conception of medicine insensibly began, with its bearing on the scientific and popular literature and on the medical and general education of the age. Medicine became preventive as well as curative. The general practitioners (as they were now called) throughout the whole country became connected with a State system of organised medical observation and relief. The provision for the reception and treatment of the sick in the new workhouses established the principle of State-supported hospitals for the most needy, in spots selected as best for united parishes through the whole country. Through the new organisation, among other means, the idea of preserving health, as distinct from curing disease, began to permeate the middle classes ... The now famous Board of Health of 1848-54, together with Parliamentary Committees and Commissions, raised the whole standard of thought and of duty in the matter of public health. Lord Ashley, leader in the warfare on behalf of the bodies and souls of men, women and children, without regard to station or to creed, was supported mainly by Mr. Chadwick and by Mr. Simon, then Officer of Health of the City Of London. The latter enunciated, so far back as 1854, the principles of sanitary administration, and afterwards taught them for many years.

Two other great movements must be named: one, due mainly to Sidney Herbert, a close attention to the medical needs of the Army at home, in the field, and in India; the other, the foundation of the profession of skilled nurses by Florence Nightingale. Each movement happened about 1854. As to the first, which has been comparatively little noticed, but which is, in reality, a silent, ever-working force, the Army Sanitary Commission has greatly helped to raise the systematic construction of hospitals at home and in India into a special science and art ... As to the second, what ever sorrows the Crimean war inflicted 33 years ago on Europe, it taught Protestant England that her cultivated women could dedicate their culture, their power, and their lives to the care of the sick. At the Queen's accession, he said, the stethoscope and the microscope were still discouraged as useless by more than one eminent teacher. The ophthalmoscope and its revelations were not known. Schwann and Schleiden had not fully opened the way to the wonders of cell-growth. Cellular histology, normal and abnormal, was still veiled from sight, or revealed only to a few gifted experts. The treasures of biological science which John Hunter left to the world were being laid open by the genius of Owen, who helped to make physiological ideas a part of the culture of the age, by attracting some of the best intellects to study the unrivalled collections in the College of Surgeons of England. John Müller's "Physiology" was only just translated by Baly. Watson's lectures had not yet made the description of disease part of the classical literature of England. Antiseptic surgery was unknown. Ovariotomy had hardly been attempted. Anaesthetics practically did not exist.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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The Secretary, The National Benevolent Institution (T), 61 Bayswater Road, London W2 3PG.

Reg Charity 212450 Est 1812

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Working throughout the UK to provide care for the homeless and elderly; support for young people; chaplaincy work in HM Prisons and HM Forces. Contact: Gordon Kinsey, Church Army, Independents Road, Blackheath, London SE3 9LG. 081-318 1226 Ext 229. *Church Army is the Anglican Church's best kept secret!*

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COMBAT STRESS

Ex-Services Mental Welfare Society, Broadway House, The Broadway, Wimbledon SW19 1RL. Tel: 081-543 6333

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 24

WAPITI

(b) A species of large deer, *Cervus canadensis*, native to North America, from the Algonquian: "If a wapiti stag were placed in a line with a fine German, and a Scotch red-deer, there would be an immense difference in size."

KEA

(b) A New Zealand parrot that sometimes kills sheep, in order to prey upon their *kidney-fat*, *Nestor notabilis*: Maori, echoic and onomatopoeic from the cry of the oviverous bir"The kea of New Zealand, a mountain parrot naturally frugivorous, which has developed a fatal taste for mutton."

INFAUST

(c) Unlucky, ill-omened, from the Latin *in-* not + *faustus* propitious: "Taurus, whose infaust aspect may be supposed to preside over the makers of bulls and blunders."

BUPPIE

(a) A black yuppie: "'Things were better now,' said a black Chicago yuppie (buppie, we were told, was the right word), 'but slow.'"

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For publication the following day please telephone by 5.00pm Monday - Thursday
4.00pm Friday, 9.00 am-1.00pm Saturday for Monday's paper.
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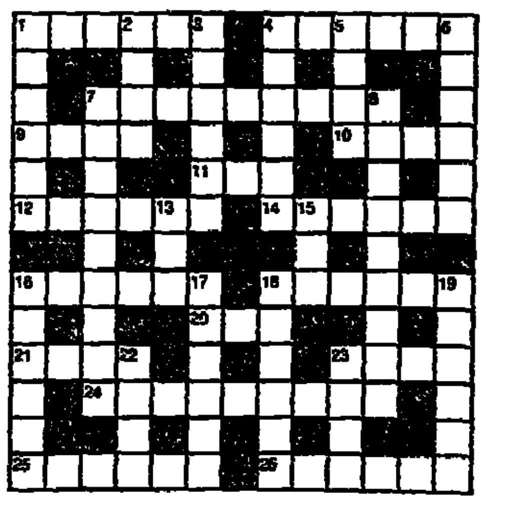

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Farmer's diary: Paul Heiney

There's no poetry in this cold war

I MIXED the pigswill at nine in the morning and the tap water was running freely. By eleven the frosty, northeast wind had got up and reduced the flow to a trickle. By noon the pipes had frozen solid. That was a fortnight ago, and I am still carting six loads of water each day from home to farmyard in a ten-gallon tank slung between a wobbly pair of iron wheels.

I now have a routine. I clothe myself with more tweed than normally worn by an entire shooting party, pass a hose through the kitchen window and fill my first tankful with warm water. Then I trudge through the snow with my precious, steaming cargo. As I approach the yard, sheep bleat with a cutting insistence, cows bellow their impatience, carthorses prance in anticipation of breakfast — which wakes the pig and her litter, who then rattle the door of the sty until it is almost off its hinges. I feel like the only waiter in a roadside café with a coachload of starving football fans to serve. And you should see the look on the animals' faces when I break the news to them that it is only water in the tank and that the food is coming later.

I cannot make up my mind about winter on farms. It is either a time of wild beauty to be enjoyed, or merely a period of intense drudgery. For rural writers it has always been the former, and they are invariably more eloquent in their descriptions of frosty, icebound mornings than they are in depicting sultry summer days. I can understand why. Winter distils all the elements of farm life into an intoxicating spirit, the vapours of which can be breathed as you crunch through the snow across a farmyard like ours. Senses are heightened: details too commonplace to be worth noting on ordinary days are observed and enjoyed when set against a background of intense bleakness.

For example, when it became clear that snow was imminent, I took a horse and cart to cut a few loads of kale so that whatever the weather there would be something fresh for the stock to chew over. The land was hard as rock, and as my billhook struck the earth when slicing through the stems of the kale it made sparks. The horse, with his tail to the bitter wind, dropped a heap of dung which steamed with such ferocity that I swear you could have boiled a kettle on it. On an ordinary working day I might not have noticed.

As we trundled home with the last load, the heaviness in the snow-laden sky became oppressive and I glanced at the sheep. My sheep are cunning and are well aware that they can manipulate their inexperienced master. It seems that it has only to cross my mind that they may need an extra feed for one of them to give a heart-rending, hungry bleat. On this occasion, I thought that our pregnant ewes would be better off in the shelter of the farmyard. The instant the thought occurred, the first flakes of snow fell and a cold, lone sheep ambled towards me with plea written across its face. Snow was being driven horizontally and the wind had an edge to it keener than any blade on a scythe. I set my sheepdog, Flash, to gather the flock and watched as he became a dark smudge moving swiftly through the white blurr. Bringing sheep safely home in a blizzard is a memory I shall treasure.

So much for the romance. What about the harsh facts of daily life? Well, I do not feel moved to write in poetic terms about the early mornings when penetrating frosts bite into my cracked fingertips. I cannot begin to describe the gloom when I find snow has blown under the barn roof and covered several hundred pounds' worth of feed: it is no problem now but the feed could be ruined when the thaw comes. I will not describe to you the frustration when numb fingers are trying to undo a chain on a gate, or the feeling when the metal feed scoop freezes to your fingers.

And all this fumbling, shivering and lugging of heavy water buckets is set against a background of cows, sheep, horses and pigs all raising their voices and stamping their feet, demanding food to keep out the bitter cold. There have been times in the last few days when I have stood, frozen, in the middle of the yard and screamed at the lot of them. There was not much poetry in it.

Home from home: Patrick Scott

Bolting out of the mews

PAT MAXWELL

Relaxed: the studio and conservatory face southwest — "only portrait painters need a north light," Patrick Scott says — and are good for parties

Dug into one side of the fertile Liffey valley in the Wicklow hills of the Irish republic, near to the source of the river, stands a small traditional farmhouse with stonebuilt walls two feet thick and six-paned windows. From these windows on the west side of the house you can see and hear the Liffey, and watch it dance in a waterfall down to a pool. "I'd probably go mad if I didn't have this house," says Patrick Scott, the artist, "it has the greatest therapeutic effect."

Mr Scott is Ireland's best known abstract painter, producing, says Brian O'Doherty, the critic, "the most consistently excellent body of work of any Irish artist". His work is on display in galleries and institutions in the republic, the Museum of Modern Art in New York and the Hirsthorn Museum in Washington.

In 1960, Mr Scott won the Guggenheim National Award, represented the republic at the Venice Biennale and, not surprisingly, retired from his architectural practice of the previous 15 years to concentrate on painting.

He also started work "very slowly and gradually" on the Georgian mews house in Dublin which he had bought in a state "exactly as the horses had left it". It had stalls, cobbled floors and a fallen-in roof. The house has a decorated façade, peculiar to all Dublin mews of that period, "so that people had something nice to look at from the back windows", Mr Scott says. "The classical front, *windows, fanlight and niches* I preserved absolutely, but I didn't want to make the interior a Georgian bijou so I did it straightforwardly."

Three years later he converted the farmhouse in Wicklow with the help of his neighbour, Martin Kearns, who is a hill farmer. As an architect, Mr Scott had designed a great many conversions which he enjoyed to a greater or lesser extent depending on the client's ability to understand the drawings and appreciate the problems. When it came to the work he did with Mr Kearns, they had great fun, partly, Mr Scott says, "because we get on well together and partly because he has a natural instinct for the reconstruction of houses".

The house is a traditional two-up, two-down. It appears on the first ordnance map of Ireland of 1834, but the window mouldings suggest that it is of the early 1820s. Adjoining it was the stable which is now Mr Scott's splendid kitchen, complete with a minstrel's gallery where the loft once was, "though there's never been a minstrel on it". The walls extend up to the exposed trusses of the roof. Off the kitchen is the 64ft-long barn, which once had space for 24 cows and is now the studio. He recently built a conservatory on to it "to preserve a bit of sun". Both studio and conservatory face southwest: "Only portrait painters need a north light," Mr Scott says, "and it's a very good room for parties."

He claims that his idyllic surroundings, just under 20 miles from the centre of Dublin, are not a source of inspiration for his work. "My painting is divorced from nature. Wicklow is my bolt-hole, and has almost tangible restorative powers. I get into the car to drive here and begin to unwind at once."

This has some bearing on the manner in which he approaches his work. "I never seem to analyse what I'm doing or why. I just get down and do it," he says. "But the routine which in theory I have in Dublin changes when I'm here because I can wander over the hills whenever I feel like it. You can walk 18 miles over the moors behind the house before you come to a road."

Mr Scott goes to the house as often as he can, which is nearly every weekend, and in the summer for longer periods. When he is not creating the shimmering gold spheres worked in gold leaf and tempera on unprimed canvas, for example, or designing tapestries, which are woven either on the V'Soske Joyce handlooms in County Galway or at Aubusson in France, Mr Scott is either "fiddling with bits of the house" or "making odd bits of simple furniture". A la Shaker? "Would that it were," he says. "Simple, yes, but not Shaker quality." The little pine hanging dressers, however, are delightful in their own right.

Something of the Shaker simplicity is apparent in the style of the farmhouse. The original walls are rendered, and where this has fallen off the stone appears in sections underneath. In the studio, the walls are all of exposed stone. Where the doors in the house are excessively low — Mr Scott is 6ft tall — he has hung navy blue *noren*, Japanese cotton quarter curtains, which hang like a pelmet over the door. "Instinctively you duck as you approach," Mr Scott says. "I found the *noren* outside shops in Tokyo and since I've hung them here I've had no complaints from anybody."

As the house stands 1,000ft above sea level it can be fairly brisk in winter. There is swimming in the Liffey in the summer and all the year round there is wood to chop for the fires. "Trees keep getting blown down in storms." With fires in the big sitting room and the little one, and both a fire and a wood-burning stove in the long barn, Mr Scott is kept quite busy.

Immediately surrounding the house are two and a half acres of grounds, and an 18-acre field. Mr Scott has grazing rights over a further 4,000 acres and with them turbary, the *right to cut turf*.

As far as this goes, Mr Scott claims he is "much too old to use it now. It's the hardest job in the world. I tried it once when I was much younger and gave up half way. It's much easier to buy the turf."

> *'Turf-cutting is the hardest job in the world. I tried it once when I was much younger and gave up half way. It's much easier to buy the turf'*

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Killer of the skies defended

Feather report

Predator: a threatening sparrowhawk circles above a linnet

A FEW weeks ago I wrote, rejoicing, about the increase in sparrowhawks. This prompted impassioned letters from readers denouncing the murderous excesses of this wonderfully fearsome bird. "The strict conservation" of sparrowhawks is "resulting in sad depletion of our common wild birds", one reader says. She cites seeing sparrowhawks killing birds in her garden.

Another reader writes of the apparently declining number of birds in Highgate cemetery, north London, and wonders if this is the result of predation. And yet another gives a description of a sparrowhawk — presumably a young and inexperienced bird — taking something like an hour to dispatch a starling. She wanted to intervene: "It was only the knowledge that the starling would die anyway and the hawk would go off and kill another bird that stopped me." (A bird reserve warden once told me of his mixed feelings when a lesser spotted woodpecker was demolished by a sparrowhawk a few feet from him.)

This is not a simple issue. If you are trying to save birds, what do you do about birds that kill other birds? Magpies are favourite villains; the RSPB gets more letters on this subject than any other. People fear that our nice, friendly songbirds, blue tits, robins and so on, are being slowly wiped out as the predator population increases. A pair of sparrowhawks are likely to kill 500 small birds in a breeding season: that, you would think, could not fail to have an effect on the population at large. As the number of sparrowhawks increases, so robins and blue tits surely must decline.

Let us turn to the alarming episode of the Maine Gunners. They were American ecological researchers who set out to study caterpillars but ended up making a startling discovery about songbirds. They marked out an area of woodland in Maine and counted 148 pairs of breeding songbirds. Then, acting like the ultimate predator, they shot the lot. They had mapped out the location of every nest and expected the slaughter to be a quick business.

They had counted 148 singing males: after three weeks they had killed 302. And there were still birds singing their heads off. It was clear that there was a surplus population of non-breeding birds.

This rather ghastly experiment indicates that the breeding population is regulated by the number of places available to breed in, rather than the number of predators. The point is not the size of the predated population but the land's "carry capacity".

The population of British breeding birds has been logged every year since 1961 by the British Trust for Ornithology through its Common Bird Census and, despite the increase of magpies and sparrowhawks, the number of songbirds has remained almost constant over the past 25 years.

Obviously more songbirds get eaten as the number of sparrowhawks increases, but roughly the same numbers breed year after year. A study of great tits in Oxfordshire, carried out over 40 years, showed that when the birds are safe from predation they tend to survive the breeding season and die in the early autumn instead — some young birds from lack of experience, some old birds from increasing feebleness. The numbers are regulated by vacancies in the autumnal feeding grounds — so, once again, by the carrying capacity of the land.

The Common Bird Census points to the decline of some common species: there are fewer tree sparrows, corn buntings and linnets. This is not because these are favourite snacks of sparrowhawks but because of changes in agricultural practices.

If you change the nature of the land, you must alter its carrying capacity. If you chop down trees or plough pastures, you destroy breeding and feeding opportunities. If you build houses on heathland, yachting marinas in estuaries and drain wetland, you change the character of the countryside and affect the bird population it can maintain.

The temptation to blame predators for a perceived decline in the prey population is wrong. Birds of prey are highly visible and they indubitably kill for a living. But the long-term fortunes of their prey population depend on far more subtle and elusive matters.

The sparrowhawk stands accused of being an enemy of conservation. It emerges without a stain on its character.

SIMON BARNES

What's about: *Birders watch for flocks of mixed finches, mixed yellowhammer, corn bunting and tree sparrow, ducks and grebes around unfrozen water. Woodcock can turn up anywhere. Twitchers — harlequin duck at Wick, north Scotland, surf scoter at Largo Bay, Fife. American bittern still at Marton Mere, Lancashire. Details from Birdline, 0898 700222.*

Country events:

THIS WEEKEND

- **Kielder husky rally:** Popular annual event held in woods beside Kielder Water. Seventy teams of dogs will compete both days. Light refreshments on site.
Kielder, Falstone, near Hexham, Northumberland. Today, tomorrow 10am-mid-afternoon. Spectators welcome. Free car park.
- **Peckforton Castle antiques fair:** Twenty-five dealers occupy the central hall and adjoining rooms of the Grade 1 Victorian gothic building, selling furniture, paintings, pottery, porcelain, silver and jewellery — all pre-1891.
Peckforton Castle, near Tarporley, Cheshire. Today 11am-6pm, tomorrow 11am-5pm. Admission £2.50, includes catalogue.

Guided Walks in County Durham: Today, explore the Greta Valley with naturalist Peter Buchanan. Wear boots and waterproofs.
Meet at the bridge on the River Greta between Bowfield and Rutherford, 2pm. Adults 80p, child 40p.

- **Weekend walk:** Follow the Roman wall along the River Irthing from Combrag to Appletree — part of a bird reserve — to see archaeological remains, landscape, and wild life. Take picnic lunch.
Meet at Banks Turret car park, East Cumbria (ref NY574647), tomorrow 10.30am. Walk lasts four hours. Adult £1, child 50p.

NEXT WEEK

- **Cookery demonstrations:** Chef and sous-chef Alan Ford and David Summerell share their culinary secrets about terrines, mousses and pâtés, using meat, shellfish and vegetables. The day includes a tour of the 16th century manor house, a three-course lunch, and information pack.
Hindlesham Hall, Hindlesham, near Ipswich, Suffolk. Wed. Tickets £37.50. Booking 0473 87334.

Flowers of the Lea Valley: Illustrated introduction to the wildflower meadows and marshes of the Lea Valley. Learn how to discover and identify different species.
Meet at Lea Valley Park Countryside Centre, Waltham Abbey, Essex. Wed 7.30pm. Details 0992 713838.

JUDY FROSHAUG

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With half-term upon us, here is a guide to some family entertainments and outings around the country

How to keep the children happy

ENTERTAINMENT

LONDON

● **Courage Mountain and half-term party:** Sunshine the clown with songs, games and talking drums, and feature film tracing the story of Heidi, who escapes from an orphanage to run to the mountains in the first world war; today, 2.30pm; children £2, accompanied adults £2.50.
Barbican Children's Cinema Club, Cinema 1, Barbican Centre, EC2 (071-638 4141). Annual membership £2.50, in advance or at the door.

● **Food fun:** On-site clown, children's play area and set menu, £3.95. Closed Sats.
Boardwalk Restaurant Soho, 18 Greek Street, W1 (071-287 2051).

● **Free food:** Accompanied children under 4ft 8in eat free at Jigsaw and eight other Peter Ilic establishments.
Jigsaw, 74 Askew Road, W12 (071-746 0397); other restaurants include Brahms, 147 Lupus Street, SW1; Le Casino, 77 Lower Sloane Street, SW1; and the Pigeon, 606 Fulham Road, SW6.

● **Lancelot the Lion and variety turns:** Animal adventures for three to six-year-olds; Feb 20, 3pm, £3.50, children £2.50.
Robin Hood: Tales of the folk hero, suitable for four to seven-year-olds, Feb 21, 3pm, Feb 22, 11am; prices as above.
The Ugly Duckling: Hans Christian Andersen's story; Feb 22, 3pm, Feb 23, 11am; prices as above.
Little Angel Marionette Theatre, 14 Dagmar Passage, off Cross Street, N1 (071-226 1787).

● **A Fish Called Brenda:** The tale of two selfish sisters and their magic fish, presented by Boardwalk 25. Suitable for five to 12-year-olds.
Lyric Theatre Hammersmith, King Street, W6 (081-741 2311); today, 11am; £2.

● **Kingfisher Pond:** Ecological adventure story suitable for five to eight-year-olds. Today, 2pm, 5pm, Feb 19-22, 11am, 2pm; on until Mar 23. £4 (£3.70 group bookings).
Pretend We're Friends: A play about making friends for three to five-year-olds, performed by Quicksilver children's theatre company with songs, story-telling and audience participation. Feb 19-22, 11.25am, 2.15pm, £2.20.
Polka Children's Theatre, 240 The Broadway, Wimbledon, SW19 (081-543 4888).

● **Entertaining eating:** Restaurant with Punch and Judy, clowns and magicians performing for children at the weekends.
Smollensky's Balloon, 1 Dover Street, W1 (071-491 1199).

● **Animal fun:** Children's menu available in this jungle-style restaurant filled with surprising decorations, including a life-size model elephant, a Jeep and a railway carriage dining area with safari videos screened in the windows.
Monkey Business, 35 The Piazza, Jubilee Hall market, Covent Garden, WC2 (071-379 5903).

● **Untanka and the Jewel:** Story-telling, dancing, games and mask-making for seven to 12-year-olds. Bring lunch. Feb 18, 10.30am-3.30pm, £3.
Turtle Mania: Games, stories and face paints. Feb 19, 10.30am-12 noon for three to six-year-olds, £2; 1.30-3.30pm for seven to 12-year-olds, £2.50.
Who's Afraid of Their Own Shadow? Theatrical play-shop with puppets and mime for four to 11-year-olds, presented by Upstream Children's Theatre. Feb 20, 2-3pm, £2.25.
Let's Go Bananas! Acting, music, songs for under-fives. Feb 21-22, 10.30am-12 noon; £2.
Tricycle Theatre, 269 Kilburn High Road, NW6 (071-328 1000); booking essential.

● **Frankie's Monster:** Frankie makes her own monster, and has problems keeping it hidden from her family. Adapted by Diane Samuels from the book by Vivien Alcock. For children over eight, Feb 16-17 and 21-23, 2.30pm; £3-£5 plus 10p temporary membership.
Stig of the Dump: the stage version of the adventures that begin when Barney discovers Stig, a Stone Age Briton living in a rubbish tip. Adapted by Richard Williams from Clive King's book. For children over five. Feb 19-20, 2.30pm; prices as above.
Unicorn Theatre, 6 Great Newport Street, WC2 (071-836 3334).

● **Magic meal:** A popular restaurant with children on Sundays; resident magician.
Zuma, Chelsea Cloisters, Sloane Avenue, SW3 (071-225 1048).

■ *For further information about London restaurants and dining out with children, call Restaurant Switchboard on 081-888 8080. Details of child-friendly restaurants nationwide are in* And Baby Comes Too*: price £7.95, published by Egon Ronay and Al Fresco Leisure Publications.*

BRISTOL

● **The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe:** Stage version adapted by Glen Robins. Feb 18-20, 7pm, also 2pm Feb 19, 10.30am Feb 20; £6-£8, 20 per cent reduction for children.
The Horse and His Boy: Feb 21-23, 7pm, also 2pm Feb 21, 10.30am Feb 22; prices as above.
Hippodrome, St Augustine's Parade, BS1 4UZ (0272 299444).

CHELTENHAM

● **Zippo's family circus:** A cruelty-free show with a Victorian theme. Tumblers, jugglers, clowning, trapeze acts and an exploding car. Feb 21-22, 2.30pm and 7pm; children £3.50, accompanied adults £2.50.
Cheltenham town hall, Imperial Square, GL50 1QA (0242 572573).

EDINBURGH

● **Jason and the Argonauts:** Classical adventure feature; today, 2pm; £1.50, children £1.
Filmhouse, 88 Lothian Road (031-228 2688).

GLASGOW

● **Alice — New Adventures though the Looking Glass:** Adventure story with lots of new fantasy characters; today, 2pm and 7pm; £2.50, children £1.50, £7 family ticket for two adults and two children.
Paisley Arts Centre, New Street, Paisley (041-887 1010).

LEEDS

● **Cinderella:** Pantomime with Jonathon Morris, Windsor Davis, Dame Hilda Bracket and Janet Dibley; today and Feb 18, 7.15pm; Feb 19-23, 2.30pm and 7.15pm; £5.50-£8.50, 20 per cent reduction for children.
Grand Theatre, 46 New Briggate (0532 459351).

LIVERPOOL

● **Rainbow:** Stage version based on children's television series. Today, 11.30am, 2pm, 4.30pm; £5, £4.50 children.
Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat: Bill Kenwright's production of the Lloyd Webber show. Feb 18-Mar 23, Mon and Thurs 7.30pm, Tues, Wed, Thurs 2pm, Fri, Sat 2pm, 5pm, 8pm; £5.50-£8, £1.50 discount for children.
Empire Theatre, Lime Street (051-709 1550).

MANCHESTER

● **Metamorphosis:** Berkoff's stage adaptation of *Kafka* in a production that fuses music, energetic acrobatics and mime. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, until Mar 2, £3.25-£4 (Mon £3.75).
Theatre day for students. Feb 19, £5.50, £3.25 concessions.
Contact Theatre, Oxford Road (061-274 4400/4477).

● **The Brave Little Toaster:** A film for the mechanical age, featuring the adventures of a characterful toaster, lamp, radio and vacuum cleaner as they travel through the world. Today, 2pm; £1.75, children £1.
Mr Coconut: Film from Hong Kong about the adventures of a fisherman when he comes into money. Feb 17, 12 noon, free.
Cornerhouse Arts Centre, 70 Oxford Road (061-228 2463).

NORWICH

● **The Tall of the White Giant:** Traditional African story of giants, jungles and magical singing birds, suitable for six to 11-year-olds. Performed by the Northern Black Light theatre company, with story-teller, masks, puppets, props and ultra-violet light show. Feb 18-23, 2.30pm, also 10.30am Feb 21 and 7.30pm Feb 22; £3.50, children £2.50.
Norwich Puppet Theatre, St James, Whitefriars (0603 629921).

SHEFFIELD

● **The King of Ireland's Son:** Adventure play with 12 puppeteers and a large marionette stage: today, 2.30pm, 5pm; £2, children £1).
Grand Occasions: Show devised and performed for children by the Sheffield Teachers' Pegasus Theatre Company. Feb 20-23, 7.30pm, also 2.30pm Feb 23, £3.
Merlin Theatre, 2 Meadowbank Road, Nether Edge (0742 551638).

MUSEUMS

LONDON

● **Science Museum:** "Yesterday's Children", for nine to 11-year-olds: chance to take part in a historical drama and experience life *as a child worker in 19th century* Britain. Advance booking essential. Also at the museum throughout the holiday, "Launch Pad", a scientific hands-on permanent exhibition.
The Small Theatre, Science Museum, Exhibition Road, London SW7 (071-938 8000). Thurs 1.30pm, Fri and Sat 11am and 1.30pm; free.

● **Museum of London:** Events for all the family include two films on wartime London. Tues, a workshop on the home front; Wed, the way we used to live; Thurs, music we listened to in the war; Fri, how we used to dress. All events at 1.10pm.
Museum of London, London Wall, London EC2 (071-600 3699). Museum open Tues-Sat, 10am-6pm, Sun, 2-6pm, free.

● **Hands-on at the Natural History Museum:** Discovery centre, suitable for seven to 11-year-olds; explore shells, skins and skeletons.
Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7 (071-589 6323). Mon-Sat, 10am-4pm, Sun 2-4pm, £3, child £1.50.

● **MOMI events:** "Witches with Warty Bottoms" exhibition, based on the Channel 4 animation programme, which looks at techniques used. Also on Wed at 7.30pm, for visitors over 11, make-up artist Christopher Tucker demonstrates prosthetic techniques, with reference to the film *High Spirits* to be shown on Thurs 7.30pm.
Museum of the Moving Image, South Bank, London SE1 (071-928 3535). Tues-Sun (and Mons during holidays), 10am-8pm, last admission 7pm; £4.95, child five-16 £3.50; family ticket (two adults and four children) £15; lecture £2.50, lecture and film £5.

● **RAF Museum:** More than 60 historic aircraft, plus an updated Gulf exhibition. Films, Tornado flight simulator, and hands-on exploration of an ejector seat and other equipment.
RAF Museum, Hendon, London NW9 (081-205 2266). Daily 10am-6pm, £3.60, child £1.80.

● **National Maritime Museum:** Family shows at the planetarium, Mon-Fri, 2.30pm and 3.30pm.
National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London SE10 (081-858 4422). Adult passport ticket £4.90, child £2.90, family ticket (two adults and up to five children) £9.90.

NATIONWIDE

● **Liverpool museums:** Tomorrow and Mon at the Maritime Museum, putting ships in bottles. At the Museum of Labour History, "Staying Power", an exhibition about the black community.
Liverpool Museum, Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2-5pm, free. Maritime Museum, daily 10.30am-5.30pm, last admission 4.30pm; £1.50, child 75p. Museum of Labour History as Liverpool Museum (051-207 0001).

● **Cadbury's national exhibition of children's art:** Paintings, design and poetry created by five to 17-years-olds.
Warrington Museum and Art Gallery, Bold Street, Warrington, Cheshire, Fri until Apr 5, Mon-Sat 10am-5.30pm, Sun 10am-5pm, free.

● **Medieval events:** Three days of activities for eight to 11-year-olds, relating to the medieval gallery, which will be opened on Feb 28. Tues, food and lifestyles; Wed, tiles and illuminations; Thurs, heraldry and coats of arms.
Museum of St Albans, Herts, Tues and Thurs; St Albans Abbey Wed. Sessions 10am-12 noon, 2-4pm; £1. Booking on 0727 56679.

● **Lancaster museums:** A variety of quiz sheets at the City Museum — titles include "A Treasure Hunt", "Romans", "Victoriana", "Museum Objects" and general topics. At the Maritime Museum, general quiz sheets for infant, junior and senior age groups
City Museum, Market Square; Maritime Museum, St George's Quay, Lancaster. Mon-Sat, 2-5pm, free. Information on 0524 64637.

● **Manchester museum:** 12 permanent galleries open, with a steam mill in operation. In the space and scientific galleries there are hands-on exhibits.
Manchester Museum of Science and Industry, Liverpool Road, Castlefield (061-832 2244). Daily 10am-5pm, £2, child £1.

WORKSHOPS

● **V&A:** Workshops for children aged seven and over and parents in the Apse Theatre, daily at 10.30am and 1.30pm — all with south Asian theme. Today, dance; Mon, music and art; Tues, art and craft; Wed, drama; Thurs, music. £1, bookable in advance. Also, activities to watch or join in throughout the day. Today and Mon, mirror embroidery; Tues, learn a little Urdu and Hindi; Wed, musical instruments; Thurs, story-telling. Nehru Gallery, Colonnade Steps, 11am-12.30pm and 1.30-3.30pm, free; no booking required.
V&A, South Kensington, London SW7 (071-938 8437).

● **Horsham Russian festival workshops:** *During the week-long* festival, a series of workshops based on Russian folklore for two age groups: Mon, six to nine-year-olds, Tues-Wed, nine to 16-year-olds.
Horsham Arts Centre, North Street, Horsham, West Sussex. Mon-Wed 9.30am-12 noon; £2 bookable on 0403 68689.

● **Poole workshops:** For five to 12-year-olds, painting, drama, collage, pottery, needlecraft and weaving every Sat until Mar 16.
Poole Arts Centre, Poole, Dorset. Sat 11am-12.30pm, £2.05, bookable on 0202 685222.

● **Bridport dressing-up box:** For the under-fives, a playgroup with dressing-up. Children under three welcomed if accompanied. Parents can visit the weekly craft market.
Bridport Arts Centre, Bridport, Dorset (0308 27183). Wed 2-3pm.

● **Bird workshop:** Learn how to plan and build a nest box for different types of bird.
Margam Park, West Glamorgan (0639 881635). 4pm. £5, child £2.50.

● **Working crafts afternoon:** Chance for children and families to have a go at butter churning, flailing and grinding corn, spinning, weaving and corn dolly making. Demonstrations of harness making.
Tolson Memorial Museum, Ravensknowle Park, Huddersfield (0484 530591); today 2-4pm, free.

● **Basketry day course:** Traditional craft of willow basket-making with demonstrations and a chance to make your own. Suitable for older children and parents.
Lee Valley Countryside Centre, Waltham Abbey, Essex. Today from 10.30am. Course fee £13.50: some places still available, check on 0992 713838.

STATELY HOMES

● Many stately homes and historic buildings remain open during the winter months, when they are less crowded. Two useful guides are: *The National Trust Handbook*, listing all NT properties, with opening times, charges and facilities. Obtainable by post from the National Trust, 36 Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1H 9AS; enclose a cheque for £3.95 plus 50p p&p. The book is also obtainable from good book shops.
Guide to English Heritage Properties, available by post from English Heritage, PO Box 229, Northants, NN6 9QY; enclose a cheque for £2.25 plus 95p p&p.

■ COMPILED BY JUDY FROSHAUG AND SUE MOORE

New year puzzle

THERE are 12 animals in the Chinese zodiac and each year is governed by one of them in succession. The year of the goat started yesterday — or is the year of the ram, or the sheep? Opinions differ but according to Derek Walters, a specialist in Chinese astrology, the confusion arises because the word *Yang* means any ovine animal, including goat, sheep and ram.

"Canton, for example, is known as the city of five rams but its main statue depicts five goats," Mr Walters says.

Mr Tony Man, the spokesman for the Chinatown Chinese Association in London, offers another explanation: that sheep predominate in the north of China, goats in the south and people identify with the particular animal accordingly.

On the international front, *Yang* portents suggest peace and harmony. On the home front, we are cautioned to be careful with our money and if possible to invest in art and antiques. Personally, we are urged to make new friends, get on with our neighbours and end old hostilities. Home life is all important, and this is an auspicious year in which to get married or start a family.

Wonder boys: wide-eyed children at London's Soho festivities

Chinese communities in Britain will do most of their celebrating this weekend. In London, festivities centre round Leicester Square, Gerard Street, Newport Place and Lisle Street, tomorrow from 10.45am until early evening, and include traditional dragon and lion dances, martial arts and cultural displays, market stalls, fortune tellers and the money god dispensing 5,000 red packets of *lai si* ("lucky money") to children. At Neal Street East there is a life-force dance from 2pm today.

Other celebrations will take place in Chinese communities over the next few days. Tomorrow, in Birmingham, there is a variety show at 2pm. In Liverpool, cultural performances at the Merseyside Chinese community centre at 7pm. In Glasgow on Monday there are festivities at the Strathclyde community centre from 2pm.

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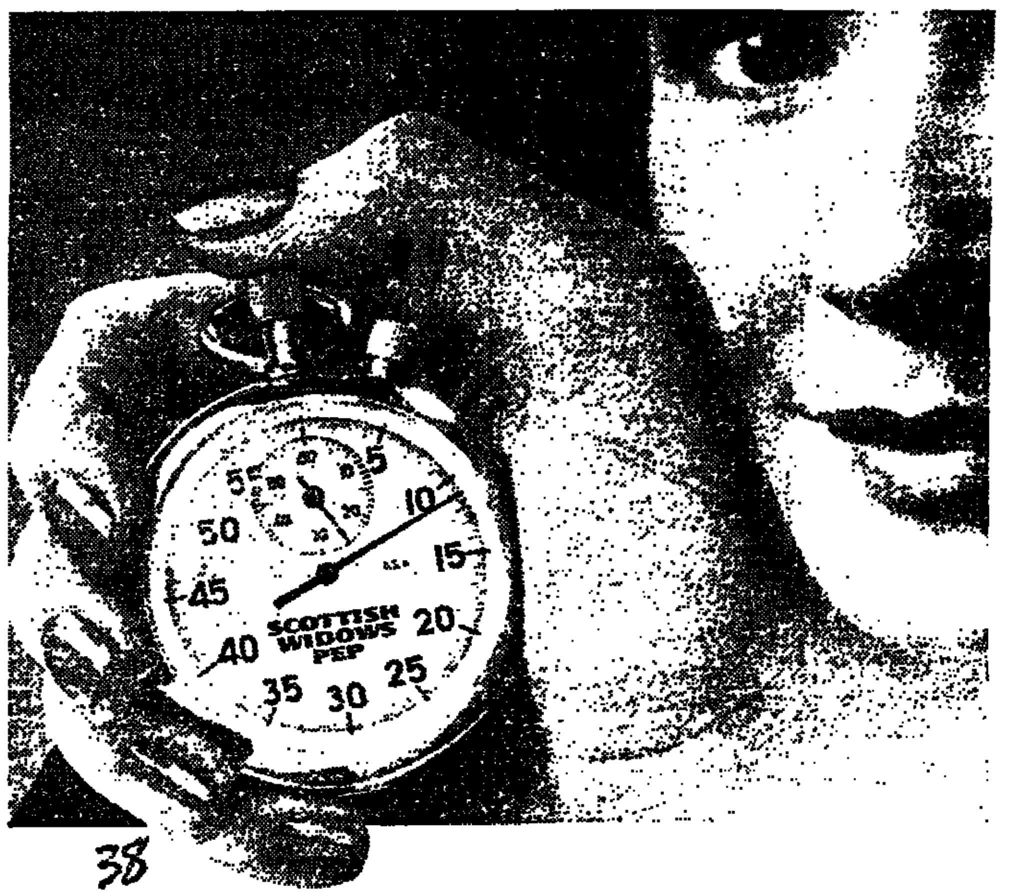

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Source *Money Management April 1990 Managed Fund Sector Performance. **Money Management May 1990.

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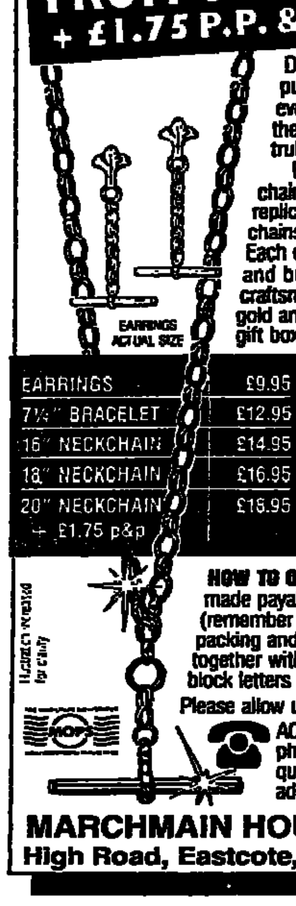

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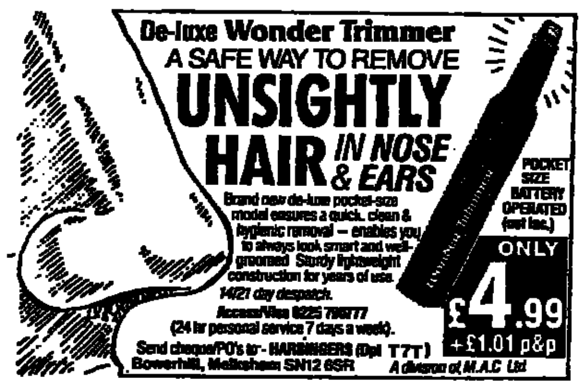

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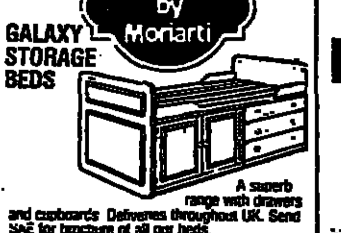

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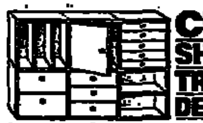

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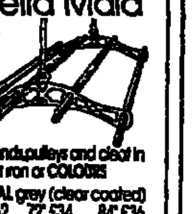

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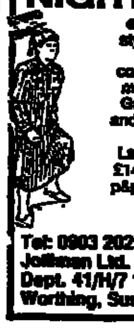

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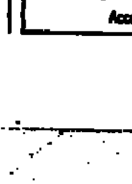

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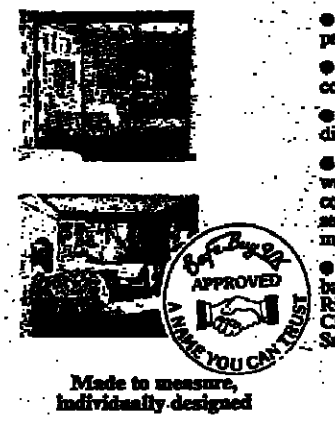

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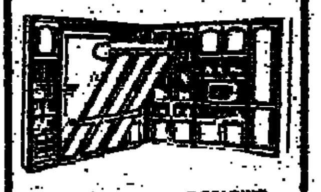

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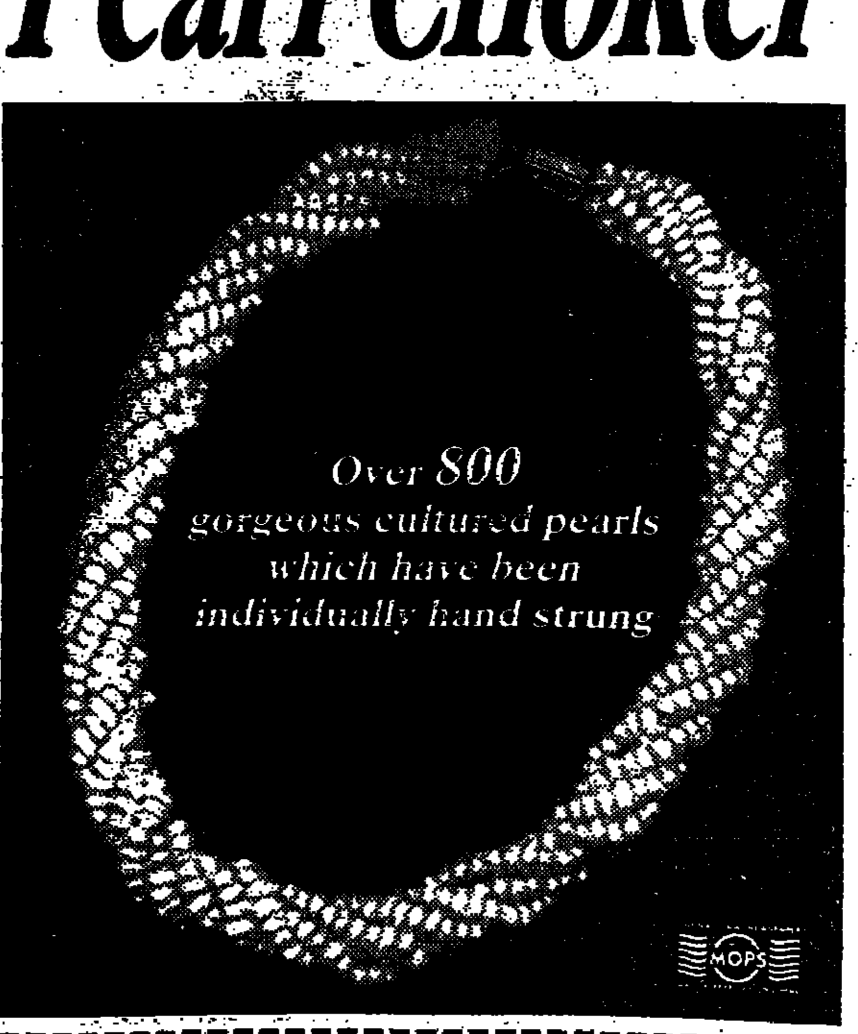
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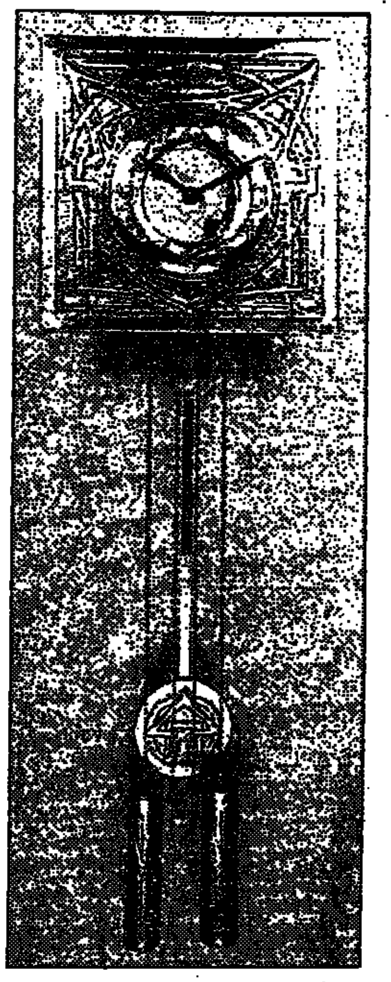
Save at the sales of the century

Why is our heritage of decorative arts more popular with the Japanese and the Americans than it is here? Sarah Jane Checkland reports



Unique: tin wall clock with interlacing Celtic tracery, designed and executed by Margaret Gilmour

Why are the British decorative arts wasted on the British, leaving the market open for the Americans, Swiss and Japanese? Could it be due to our preference for the small screen, and the moving images thereon, rather than the pleasure in single, quality items to improve our lives? Or is it simply because of our ignorance of our heritage, art history teaching being virtually non-existent in our schools, while cuts in the Crafts Council grants make for fewer touring exhibitions? No great writer or theoretician has emerged, as John Ruskin did in the 19th century, to unravel the strings into a coherent theory of design.

The most likely reason, however, is that the British are trapped in a web of nostalgia for Georgiana and Victoriana and of class consciousness, causing us to turn our interiors into *Upstairs Downstairs* pastiches, our living rooms being all chintz, aspidistras and oriental rugs, our kitchens regulation scrubbed pine (with occasional tatty DIY). While other nations (the Americans in particular, thanks to the influence of the architect Frank Lloyd Wright) create uncluttered homes in which they can display their choice artefacts to effect, in ours they look like sore thumbs.

Christie's, therefore, has done its best to help, compiling an annual auction of British decorative arts from 1880 to the present day, offering a rare overview of what has been produced. The next such sale, including furniture, tapestries, pottery and glass, takes place on Wednesday, with previews from tomorrow. Bonhams will have a similar sale in April.

The sale is the brainchild of Christie's expert Dan Klein, himself the owner of an extensive collection of British ceramics acquired during his time as a dealer. "I don't need fast cars, but I do need Ewan Henderson," he says of one contemporary potter, whose works, with titles such as *Sack Form*, are said to explore the fired qualities of clay.

"There is a national style which entails eccentricity without going overboard," he says. "It is immensely appealing and never embarrassing."

The auction offers opportunities to choose between survivors from famous mass-produced lines (such as Heal's chairs), and one-off objects which offer, in the words of the craft critic Peter Dormer, "the power to have the exclusive rights to another person's labour".

Mr Klein refuses to discuss value for money, saying: "People buy these things because they want and love them. You like being in contact with them through your eyes." But he adds: "You can't *just* do it for love, there are large amounts of money involved. To a collector it is both love and business."

The auction begins in the 1880s, with William Morris and the Arts and Crafts Movement; Morris makes a good starting point as his ideas of utopian socialism have influenced many movements in the following decades. The estimates are surprisingly reasonable.

Last year Christie's sold a pair of Arts and Crafts leaded and stained glass panels for £1,650; this year it expects £3,000 for a panel of *Amor and Alcestis*, designed by the Pre-Raphaelite Sir Edward Burne-Jones, and inspired by Chaucer's *Legend of Goode Wimmen*.

The Glasgow art nouveau movement, coming shortly after, is represented by cutlery from Charles Rennie Mackintosh. Unappreciated during his lifetime, eking out a drunken existence in France, he is now the Van Gogh of architecture and interior decoration. Last year a set of four silver spoons and forks designed by him sold for £22,000 against an estimate of £10,000 to £15,000. This year a humble 42-piece electroplated table service he designed for Miss Cranston's famous tea-rooms in Glasgow is estimated at £6,000 to £8,000.

The auction also includes a unique tin wall clock with interlacing Celtic tracery, designed and executed by the Glasgow artist, Margaret Gilmour, estimated at £5,000 to £7,000.

Another major figure was Sir Ambrose Heal, who at the turn of the century abandoned heavy Victorian furniture in favour of austere interiors in light woods. His furniture became a vogue. Last year a Heal oak dining room suite fetched £3,740 at Christie's. Next week a limed oak desk is estimated at £400 to £500. A walnut corner twin-pedestal writing table designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens, the architect of style and austerity, has a price tag of £8,000 to £10,000.

Thus, the sale proceeds through the decades, thinning out during post-war austerity, being kick-started by the 1951 Festival of Britain, and flowering again during the 1980s, when styles alternated giddily from austere high-tech to baroque punk. Examples in the contemporary furniture section include a steel framed and rush-covered chaise longue resembling a writhing snake, by Tom Dixon (estimate £1,000 to £1,500), and a *Ram* chair, made by André Dubreuil from scrolled, welded steel rods, estimated at £600 to £800.

ALAN WELLER

Sitting room: "Paris" chair (front); English walnut chair by Lutyens, "Kota" chair, and oak side chair by Voysey (left to right, behind); and a pair of monumental yew chairs (rear) are among the lots at Christie's sale

We have three choices. Firstly, we can go on ignoring our decorative arts in the knowledge that they will duly go away, either spirited to foreign countries (the Japanese like our ceramics, the French our furniture) or because many craftsmen will shortly, in the current recession, go out of business.

Secondly, we can take a risk on the newer items, in the knowledge that it is not us, but posterity which will make the final judgment on their qualities. There will be few bargains in this section, as, being sensitive about ruffling the feathers of his erstwhile colleagues in the dealing trade, Mr Klein has set reserves to match prices in the shops.

Here, the challenges of choice are legion. For a start, we have entered a period of fin de siècle eclecticism when the dominant styles have run their course, and no one can see clearly what is happening. Craftsmen are wracked by the tedious debate as to whether the decorative arts should be functional or decorative, integrated into the architecture or superimposed. The field is further confused by the way the market divides between "traditional" makers whose priority is quality workmanship in the Morris tradition, and flash-in-the-pan pastiche artists bred on a diet of surrealism. Mr Klein, who applies the criterion of "whether it makes you excited", has made the decision to steer clear of works by very young makers, because of the added risks.

The final, and safest, course is to go for definitive examples of a given, past movement, for, although we are slow to appreciate it, they are icons of our culture. They are also, on the face of it, extremely cheap.

> *People buy these things because they want and love them*

Review

● **Kick start:** Keen to reassure the public that, although winded, the art market has not breathed its last, Christie's has issued a statement on the subject of "continuing strength", based on results for the first weeks of 1991.

Of the 15,000 lots offered worldwide from January 8 to February 8, the company says that 83 per cent found buyers; five lots fetched more than $1 million and 30 lots sold for over £100,000. There were records for Raphael ($1.6 million or £922,432) and for a single collection of silver (£2.89 million) – both Marcos – as well as for American classical furniture (£360,102).

Meanwhile, as news came in of various provincial auctions being abandoned because of the snow, there were excellent results at Bearnes of Torquay, where a pair of Regency mahogany dwarf cabinets fetched £34,100 against an estimate of £9,000 and a late George III mahogany pedestal desk £19,800 (estimate £2,000); mixed results at Sotheby's Victorian sale, where 31 per cent went unsold; and a meagre 44 per cent success rate at Bonhams's Painting Today sale of works by the cream of British graduate artists, following a nationwide trawl to find them.

Shining example: The International Silver & Jewellery fair went better than expected, despite the Gulf war, economic recession, mortar attacks in Whitehall and blizzards. A private buyer paid £750,000 to the London dealers Koopman for a lavish silver gilt soup tureen by Jean-Baptiste-Claude Odiot, Paris 1819, while Brian Beet sold an 18th century French gold baby's rattle for £3,000.

Print run: Beware of bargain 19th century prints of Edinburgh, as they may have been stolen from Edinburgh Central Library. Around 250 works have disappeared, including two water colours by Mary Webster.

Bargain hunters: Private buyers bought eight out of ten of the top lots at Sotheby's Victorian paintings sale. The two top lots were *The Squire's Song*, a rustic interior, and the freshly-painted *Mushroom Gatherers* by the Scottish artist John Henry Lorimer, both of which sold on their lower estimate for £19,800.

Preview

● **Monday:** More putti than one could shake a stick at in a G.D. Tiepolo pen and wash study among the old master drawings at Sotheby's (up to £4,000). 10am.

Tuesday: Phillips offers the impressive contents of Asil Nadir's Polly Peck headquarters, including a Turner water colour and a George III breakfront bookcase at up to £200,000 each. A disincentive for British buyers could be the requirement that they pay 15 per cent VAT.

Christie's will be no place for penniphobes in the morning, with the sale devoted to paintings and water colours of birds. Meanwhile, Agnews opens its 118th annual water colour exhibition with works at £2,000 to £20,000. Highlights include *Deer grazing on a ridge in Petworth Park at sunset*, a water colour by J.M.W. Turner.

Wednesday: A wide ranging sale at North Warnborough village hall, near Odiham, includes a pair of 19th century Imari and ormolu chandeliers converted for electricity (up to £500), and a handsome Hepplewhite-style mahogany sideboard (up to £5,000). 2pm.

Thursday: Bonhams has some interesting modern British paintings and drawings at its Lots Road saleroom, 2pm.

Friday: Fishing reels, whole tackrooms, shotguns, a billiard table, rustic paintings and rural books at Moore Allen & Innocent of Cirencester, 10am.

●*Christie's, King Street, St James's SW1 (071-839 9060). Phillips, 101 New Bond Street, W1 (071-629 6602). Sotheby's, New Bond Street, W1 (071-493 8080). Odiham Auction Sales, Eagle Works, rear of garages, High Street, Hartley Wintney (025126 4410). Bonhams, Lots Road, SW10 (071-351 7111). Moore Allen & Innocent, 33 Castle Street, Cirencester (0285 651831). Agnew, 43 Old Bond Street (071-629 6176).*

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PETER TRIEVNOR

Stamp of quality: but are London silver hallmarks about to be made obsolete by Eurocrats?

The world's leading silver and jewellery fair closed in London last week with the trade's traditional method of authentication under threat.

For five centuries, the Wardens and Commonalty of the Mystery of Goldsmiths in London, along with its counterparts in Edinburgh, Birmingham and Sheffield, has assayed all gold and silver objects on the market, measuring the percentage of pure metal against other ingredients, and stamping the object accordingly.

If any part is discovered to be lower than the British standard (925 parts per 1,000 to qualify as sterling) these gnomes of goldsmithery have the statutory power to destroy the object. There is pride that this independent testing – of nine million items a year – ensures fair trade. Because of the harsh penalty, fewer than 0.1 per cent of pieces submitted are substandard.

David Evans, the deputy warden, says: "The public does not necessarily understand the degree of protection. It's one of those things you only value when it has gone."

Now Mr Evans and his colleagues are fighting for survival following a letter from Martin Bangemann, an EC commissioner, to Eric Poyser, the chairman of the International Confederation of Jewellery, Silverware, Diamonds, Pearls and Stones.

Instead of insisting on the same sort of standards he would for an apple or a chocolate bar, Herr Bangemann claims that arguments for statutory hallmarking in Europe by means of a directive "are not convincing, since precious metals have lost their medieval role as means of payment and all member states already protect consumers against false markings".

On January 25, James Murray, the director of the Bureau Européen des Unions de Consommateurs, wrote back with "dismay". He said: "In our opinion, the commission's position would have the effect of depriving consumers in at least six member states of an effective system of consumer protection of great antiquity", as well as flooding on to their markets articles from other member states not subject to the same checking procedure.

One theory circulating in Britain is that Herr Bangemann, a German, is favouring his countrymen. Germany abandoned its hallmarking system in the mid 1800s. Whereas hallmarking is compulsory in six of the 12 EC countries – the United Kingdom (the strictest), France, The Netherlands, Ireland, Portugal and Spain – it is voluntary in Germany, Belgium and Denmark, and non-existent in Greece, Italy and Luxembourg. In Germany, any such marks are applied by manufacturers. Nobody there minds if certain parts, such as the solder and handles, are of inferior metal.

Perturbed by this development, the UK consumer organisations met a week ago to discuss the issue at an "urgent" meeting. Apart from expressing sympathy to the campaigners, the trade and industry department is, so far, leaving the issue "up to the trade to make approaches to Brussels" – a strange reaction considering that the Goldsmith's Company's duties are statutory.

As regards antique silver, there are two schools of thought on the efficacy of assaying. "You get the guarantee that the maker made it," says Michael Koopman, the London dealer, who recently felt forced to "wreck" a piece of unmarked French cutlery with acid in an attempt to check its authenticity. The cross-referring of British hallmarks, which entails place of origin, maker's name and date, he says, also provides essential evidence when something is fake.

If the EC reduces the hallmarking system to just the maker's mark, he says, "imagine how useless that will be in two or three hundred years".

Sceptics, who include Brand Inglis, the silver dealer, say that hallmarking can encourage a stamp-collecting mentality, whereby an item is appreciated for its historic credentials rather than its intrinsic worth.

The Goldsmith's Company is often criticised for using its powers to deface marks on antique pieces its members deem incorrect. These fake marks, often applied in the early 1700s by the "duty dodgers", are arguably of historic interest.

Meanwhile, as the battle is engaged with Herr Bangemann, various voluntary world hallmarking bodies are progressing towards cross-boundary agreements which they hope will be embraced by the EC.

Whatever happens, investors can be sure that silver punched with hallmarks will streak ahead of unmarked counterparts in terms of value. "In 100 years, people will prefer marked silver to unmarked because they will know exactly what they are buying," Mr Koopman says.

S.J.C.

> *'In 100 years, people will prefer marked silver to unmarked silver'*

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Sun 17 Feb 7.30	**ELLIOTT CARTER** London Sinfonietta, Oliver Knussen (cond) Ole Bøhn (vln) Simon Holt Syrensong; Carter Violin Concerto (Brit prem); Stravinsky Variations (Aldous Huxley in memoriam), Carter Concerto for Orchestra. £8 South Bank Centre
Mon 18 Feb 7.30	**VIENNA PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA** This concert has been cancelled. Harold Holt Limited
Tue 19 Feb 7.30	In the presence of HRH The Duke of Kent. **THE LONDON PHILHARMONIC** Sir Georg Solti (conductor) Haydn Symphony No 98; Bruckner Symphony No. 2 £14, £10, £7, £4 (ONLY) London Philharmonic Enterprises Ltd
Wed 20 Feb 7.30	**BBC SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA** Sir Colin Davis (cond) Ralph Kirshbaum (cel) György Pauk (vln), Nobuko Imai (vla), Yvonne Kenny, Alfreda Hodgson, Ian Caley, Keith Lewis, Peter Harvey. Tippett Triple Concerto; Schubert Mass No. 6 in E flat. D.950 £16, £12, £8, £3.50 BBC
Thu 21 Feb 7.30	**PROKOFIEV** A Centenary Celebration. Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. Yuri Temirkanov (cond) Aled Jones (nar). Borodin Polovtsian Dances, Prokofiev Peter and the Wolf; Mussorgsky/Ravel Pictures at an Exhibition. £25, £20, £17, £13, £10, £7, £5 RPO
Fri 22 Feb 7.30	**THE LONDON PHILHARMONIC** Matthias Bamert (cond) Della Jones (mez-sop) The London Philharmonic Choir. NatWest Classics for Pleasure Series Haydn Sym No. 44 (Trauer); Parry Lotus Eaters. Brahms Sym No 4. Choir £2.50 (ONLY) LP Enterprises

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Sunday 17 Feb. 11.30 am	**TALICH QUARTET.** Sunday Morning Coffee Concert. Smetana: String Quartet No. 1 in E minor "From my Life"; Beethoven: Quartet in E flat Op. 74 "The Harp". £5 including programme & coffee/sherry/juice.
Sunday 17 Feb. NB: starting time: 4 pm	**ALFRED BRENDEL** piano London Pianoforte Series. Mozart Bicentenary Concert. ALL SEATS SOLD (returns only) Ingpen & Williams Ltd
Monday 18 Feb. 7.30 pm	**DUSSEK PIANO TRIO.** Peter Tanfield violin, Margaret Powell cello, Michael Dussek piano. Haydn: Piano Trio in C Hob.XV:27; Brahms: Trio in C minor Op. 101; Beethoven: Trio in B flat Op. 97 "Archduke". £7, £6, £5, £4
Tuesday 19 Feb. 7.30 pm	**GUILDHALL STRING ENSEMBLE, ROBERT SALTER** director. **PAUL NICHOLSON** hpscd. Corelli: Concerto Grosso Op. 6 No. 4; Vivaldi: Concerto for 2 cellos RV531; Concerto for 4 violins B min; Bach: Brandenburg No. 3; Harpsichord Concerto BWV1056; Handel: Concerto Grosso Op. 6 No. 11 £9, £7.50, £6, £4.50 Mgt G.S.E
Wednesday 20 Feb. 7.30 pm	**FRANÇOIS LE ROUX** baritone, **IRWIN GAGE** piano. Song Recital Series. Ravel: Don Quichotte à Dulcinée; Debussy: Fêtes Galantes II; Mélodies by Fauré & Debussy; Lieder by Liszt, Wolf & Schoeck. £11, £9, £7 (all others sold) HoM
Thursday 21 Feb. 7.30 pm	**YSAYE QUARTET.** Mendelssohn: String Quartet in E flat Op. 12. Erwin Schulhoff: Quartet No. 1, Ravel: Quartet in F (1902-3). £8, £7, £6, £5
Friday 22 Feb. 7.30 pm	**THE ORLANDO CONSORT. ROBERT HARRE-JONES** c-ten/ **CHARLES DANIELS, ANGUS SMITH** tens/**DONALD GREIG** bass. THE FEARLESS, THE GOOD AND THE BOLD. Music from the Court of Burgundy 1404-1477. Works by Busnois, Fontaine, Vide, Grenon, Binchois, Ockeghem. £7, £6, £5, £4
Saturday 23 Feb. 7.30 pm	**OLIVER WIDMER** baritone, **ERIC SCHNEIDER** piano. Festival of Switzerland. Schoeck: Lieder to texts by Eichendorff, Keller, Meyer, Hesse & Spitteler; Wolf: 10 lieder to texts by Mörike. £9, £7.50, £6, £4.50 Festival of Switzerland Ltd
Sunday 24 Feb. 11.30 am	**GRIEG TRIO.** Sunday Morning Coffee Concert. Haydn: Piano Trio in C HXV:27, Shostakovich: Trio No. 1 Op. 8. Mendelssohn: Trio in C minor Op. 66 £5 including programme & coffee/sherry/juice.
Sunday 24 Feb. NB: starting time: 4 pm	**TIMOTHY HUGH** cello. Britten: Suite No. 1 Op. 72; Bach: Suite No. 5 in C minor BWV1011; Kodály: Sonata Op. 8. £8, £7, £6, £5 Management Lisa Peacock
Monday 25 Feb. 7.30 pm	**PETERSEN QUARTET.** Mozart: String Quartet in D K155, Berg: Quartet Op. 3; Schubert: Quartet in G D887. £8, £7, £6, £5 Clarion-Seven Muses/Jane Gray
Tuesday 26 Feb. 7.30 pm	**TATYANA NIKOLAEVA** piano. London Pianoforte Series. Shostakovich: Preludes & Fugues Op. 87 Nos 1 to 12 Written for, & dedicated to, Tatyana Nikolaeva, who gave their first performance in December 1952. (2nd recital, Nos 13 to 24 — 28 Feb). £11, £9, £7, £5 Sponsored by the Berkshire Hotel
Wednesday 27 Feb. 7.30 pm	**MANFRED HEMM** baritone, **DAVID LUTZ** piano Song Recital Series. Schubert: Der Wanderer an den Mond, Die Sterne, Fahrt zum Hades. Schumann: Liederkreis Op. 39; Vaughan Williams: Songs of Travel (R. L. Stevenson). £11, £9, £7 (all others sold) HoM
Thursday 28 Feb. 7.30 pm	**TATYANA NIKOLAEVA** piano. London Pianoforte Series. Shostakovich: Preludes & Fugues Op. 87, Nos 13 to 24. Nikolaeva concludes this 20th century masterpiece by her compatriot, completed 40 years ago this week. Nos 1 to 12 — 26 Feb). £11, £9, £7, £5 Sponsored by the Berkshire Hotel
Friday 1 March 7.30 pm	**TORLEIF THEDEEN** cello, **STEFAN BOJSTEN** piano. Beethoven: Sonata in C Op. 102 No. 1, Stravinsky: Suite italienne (1932); Debussy: Sonata (1915); Brahms: Sonata in F Op. 99 (to celebrate the 30th anniversary of Jacqueline du Pré's debut recital at the Wigmore Hall) £7, £6, £5, £4

ST. JOHN'S SMITH SQUARE, LONDON SW1
MONDAY 18TH FEBRUARY 7.30 p.m.

SCHUBERT

PIANO RECITAL
VIVIEN BANFIELD
Sonata in A Min. D.784, Moments Musicaux D.780,
Sonata in B flat major D.960
£7, £5, £3 (concs. £3) Box Office/CC 071-222 1061

ASGARD PRESENTS

JULEE CRUISE

at the
LONDON PALLADIUM
Sunday 17th February
Special Guests FAITH OVER REASON
Tickets Available from the Box Office 071-437 7373 / 2055
and usual Agents (subject to booking fee)

BARBICAN HALL

071-638 8891 9AM–8PM DAILY

Seat prices available at time of going to press

Ton't 16 Feb 8.00pm	**GREAT CLASSICS** City Symphony Orch. Christopher Bell cond Nicholas Unwin piano Rossini: Ov. The Barber of Seville Handel: Water Music Suite Rachmaninov: Piano Concerto No 2 Beethoven: Symphony No 5 £18.50 £16.50 £14.50 £11.50 £7.50 Raymond Gubbay Ltd
Tomor 17 Feb 3.00pm	**SUNDAY AFTERNOON TEA CONCERT** London Mozart Players, Jane Glover cond Angela Malsbury clarinet Haydn: Symphony No 6, Le Matin Finzi: Clarinet Concerto Elgar: Serenade Haydn: Symphony No 8, Le Soir £15 £13 £11 £9 £6.50 £4.50 SPONSORED BY RIDGWAYS ORGANICALLY GROWN TEA
Tomor 17 Feb 7.30pm	**LSO — CHILDHOOD** Michael Tilson Thomas cond Brigitte Fassbaender sop Salvatore Accardo violin Benjamin: Jubilation Berg: Violin Concerto Mahler: Kindertotenlieder Mendelssohn: Incidental Music to A Midsummer Night's Dream: Scherzo, Nocturne, March £25 £18.50 £14 £11 £8 £5 LSO Ltd
Mon 18 Feb 7.45pm	**PETER DONOHOE PLAYS SCHUMANN** Piano Concerto with Chetham's Symphony Orchestra and Choir, Grant Llewellyn, Wayne Marshall, Louise Winter, Michael Brewer, Julian Clayton BRITTEN – MOZART – BLISS – LAMBERT STRAVINSKY £5 £4.50 £4 £3.50 £2 SPONSORED BY WHITBREAD COMPANY PLC AND NATIONAL WESTMINSTER BANK PLC
Wed 20 Feb 7.45pm	**ENGLISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA — MOZART 200** Martin Neary cond. Robin O'Neill bassoon Catriona Smith sop. Simon Gay counter-ten Andrew Tusa tenor Simon Birchall bass-bar Westminster Abbey Choir. Mozart: Missa Brevis, K194; Bassoon Concerto, K191; Dixit et Magnificat, K193 Symphony No 29, K201. Missa Brevis, K192 £15 £13 £11 £9 £6 £4 SPONSORED BY PIONEER HIGH FIDELITY (GB) LIMITED
Thurs 21 Feb 7.45pm	**ROYAL PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY CHARLES HEIDSIECK MUSIC AWARDS** London Symphony Orchestra Michael Tilson Thomas cond & host Moura Lympany piano Prokofiev: Symphony No 1 Classical Liszt: Piano Concerto No 1 Ravel: La Valse Followed by Awards £15 £11 £8.50 £6.50 £3.50 SPONSORED BY CHARLES HEIDSIECK CHAMPAGNE LSO Ltd
Sat 23 Feb 7.45pm	**LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA BRITTEN: WAR REQUIEM** Richard Hickox cond. Heather Harper sop. Philip Langridge ten. John Shirley-Quirk bass. London Symphony Chorus St Paul's Cathedral Choristers. Britten: Sinfonia da Requiem £25 £18.50 £14 £11 £8 £5 LSO Ltd
Sun 24 Feb 7.30pm	**HALLE ORCHESTRA** Stanislaw Skrowaczewski cond Pierre Amoyal violin Brahms: Tragic Ov. Mendelssohn: Violin Concerto Debussy: Le Martyre de Saint Sebastien (symphonic fragments) Ravel: Daphnis & Chloe, Suite No 2 £16 £15 £12 £9.50 £5 SPONSORED BY BROTHER INTERNATIONAL EUROPE LIMITED & MANCHESTER AIRPORT PLC LSO Ltd
Tues 26 Feb	**CITY OF LONDON SINFONIA** Andrew Watkinson dir/violin Duke Dobing flute Bach: Suite No 2 in B minor Mozart: Symphony No 39 in E flat, K543 Vivaldi: The Four Seasons £16 £13 £11 £8 £5 SPONSORED BY NATIONAL & PROVINCIAL BUILDING SOCIETY
Wed 27 Feb 7.45pm	**ENGLISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA MOZART 200** James Judd cond. Vadim Repin violin Amanda Roocroft sop. David Nettle, Richard Markham pianos Ov. & aria Il re pastore & La finta giardiniera; Concerto for Two Pianos in E flat, K365; Violin Concerto No 5, K219 £15 £13 £11 £9 £6 £4 (Please note change of artist and programme. Existing ticket holders are being notified) SPONSORED BY PIONEER HIGH FIDELITY (G.B.) LIMITED
Fri 1 Mar 7.45pm	**STUTTGART PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA** Wolf-Dieter Hauschild cond. Dmitri Alexeev piano Wagner: Ov Die Meistersinger Beethoven: Piano Concerto No 5 Emperor Franck: Symphony in D minor £18 £15 £11 £8 £4 Harold Holt Ltd

— MOZART 200 —

Concerts sponsored by Pioneer High Fidelity (GB) Ltd.

ENGLISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA
SATURDAY 9 MARCH
SYMPHONY NO 25 IN G MINOR, K183
PIANO CONCERTO NO. 9 IN E FLAT, K271
SYMPHONY NO 39 IN E FLAT, K543
DANIEL BARENBOIM
conductor/piano
Seat Prices £18 £15 £12 £9 £6 £4
BARBICAN HALL 071-638 8891 (9-8 daily)

BARBICAN CELEBRITY RECITAL
SUNDAY 3 MARCH 4.00PM

STEPHEN BISHOP-KOVACEVICH

PIANO RECITAL
BACH: Partita in D major
BEETHOVEN: *Sonata No. 28 in A, Op. 101*
CHOPIN: Nocturne in F sharp minor, Op 48 No 2;
Nocturne in E flat, Op 55 No 2;
3 *Mazurkas*: Op 24 No 4; Op 41 No 1; Op 33 No 4;
Polonaise in E flat minor Op 26 No 2
BARTOK: *Out of Doors* Suite
SPONSORED BY COMMERZBANK AG LONDON BRANCH
Seat Prices £14 £11 £7.50 £5
BARBICAN HALL 071 638 8891 (9-8 DAILY)

RAYMOND GUBBAY presents
at the BARBICAN
Box Office/CC 071-638 8891

TONIGHT at 8 p.m.

GREAT CLASSICS

Rossini ...... Ov. The Barber of Seville
Handel .... Water Music Suite
Rachmaninov .... Piano Concerto No 2
Beethoven .... Symphony No 5
CITY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
CHRISTOPHER BELL conductor NICHOLAS UNWIN piano
£7.50, £11.50, £14.50, £16.50, £18.50

THURSDAY 28 FEBRUARY at 8 p.m.

GLORY OF MOZART

The Marriage of Figaro Overture
Eine kleine Nachtmusik
Piano Concerto No.23 in A, K488
Symphony No 41 (Jupiter)
MOZART FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA
BRAMWELL TOVEY conductor JAMES LISNEY piano
£7.50, £11.50, £14.50, £16.50, £18.50

WEDNESDAY 6 MARCH at 7.45 p.m.

THE CLASSICAL COLLECTION

Rossini .... Barber of Seville Overture
Grieg .... Peer Gynt Suite No.1
Johann Strauss II .... Roses from the South
Gershwin .... Rhapsody in Blue
Suppé .... Light Cavalry Overture
Elgar .... Pomp & Circumstance March No.1
Tchaikovsky .... 1812 Overture (cannon & mortar effects)
LONDON CONCERT ORCHESTRA
BRAMWELL TOVEY Conductor
HUGH TINNEY Piano
£7.50, £11.50, £14.50, £16.50, £18.50
Sponsored by SEARS PLC Sears plc

THURSDAY 14 MARCH at 8 p.m.

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Return visit by popular demand with Glenn Miller's all-time favourites inc. In The Mood, Moonlight Serenade, Adios, Pennsylvania 65000, American Patrol, Tuxedo Junction, Little Brown Jug, String of Pearls, Chattanooga Choo Choo, St. Louis Blues & other great hits
Directed by JOHN WATSON
£7.50, £9.50, £12.50, £13.50, £14.50
Presented in association with the 1991 Money Show and *The Daily Telegraph*

SATURDAY 16 MARCH at 8 p.m.
MUSIC AND DANCE

FROM THE BALLET

Prog. inc. TCHAIKOVSKY: 'White Swan Pas de Deux', Sleeping Beauty Waltz, Finale from Theme & Variations, Pas de Deux from The Nutcracker•; DELIBES: Magic Scene from Coppelia•; FAURE: Pavane; MALCOLM ARNOLD: Scottish Dances•; HEROLD: Clog Dance from La Fille Mal Gardée
JOPLIN: Elite Syncopations
•These items will be danced
ROYAL BALLET SINFONIA
ERMANNO FLORIO Conductor
MARION TAIT KAREN DONOVAN
SANDRA MADGWICK MICHAEL O'HARE
KEVIN O'HARE DAVID MORSE
PRINCIPAL DANCERS OF THE BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET
Presented by arrangement with the Director,
Royal Opera House, Covent Garden
£8.50, £11.50, £15.50, £17.50, £19.50

EASTER SATURDAY 30 MARCH at 8 p.m.

OPERA GALA NIGHT

The Barber of Seville 'Largo al factotum'; William Tell Overture; Turandot 'Nessun Dorma'; Aida 'Grand March' & 'Ritorna Vincitor'; Nabucco 'Chorus of the Hebrew Slaves'; Carmen 'Flower Song'; La Traviata 'Miserere' & 'Di Provenza'; The Pearlfishers 'duet'; Cavalleria Rusticana 'Intermezzo'; La Bohème Act 4 'Duet' Pagliacci Prologue & 'Vesti La giubba'
LONDON CONCERT ORCHESTRA
PAUL WYNNE GRIFFITHS Conductor
JOSEPHINE BARSTOW Soprano
EDMUND BARHAM Tenor
ANTHONY MICHAELS MOORE Baritone
ENGLISH CONCERT CHORUS
FANFARE TRUMPETS OF THE IRISH GUARDS
£8.50, £11.50, £15.50, £17.50, £19.50

at the ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL
Box Office/CC 071-928 8800

SATURDAY NEXT 23 FEBRUARY at 7.30 p.m.

TCHAIKOVSKY GALA NIGHT

Marche Slave
Swan Lake Suite
Piano Concerto No.1
Nutcracker Suite
1812 Overture with cannon & mortar effects
LONDON CONCERT ORCHESTRA
FRASER GOULDING conductor MALCOLM BINNS piano
BAND OF THE IRISH GUARDS
£6.50, £8.50, £10.50, £12.50, £14.50, £16.50, £18.50

SUNDAY 24 MARCH at 7.30 p.m.
MENDELSSOHN ...... Overture, The Hebrides
HANDEL ...... Music for the Royal Fireworks
BRUCH ...... Violin Concerto No.1
BEETHOVEN ...... Symphony No.3 "Eroica"
ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA
HOWARD GRIFFITHS cond. TOMOTADA SOH violin
£6.50, £8.50, £10.50, £12.50, £14.50, £16.50, £18.50

SUNDAY 31 MARCH at 7.30 p.m.

THE FOUR SEASONS

HANDEL ...... Arrival of the Queen of Sheba
ALBINONI ...... Adagio
MOZART ...... Piano Concerto in C, K.467
VIVALDI ...... The Four Seasons
LONDON MOZART PLAYERS
IAN WATSON director/piano
THOMAS BOWES violin
£5.50, £7.50, £9.50, £11.50, £13.50, £15.50, £17.50

at the ROYAL ALBERT HALL
BY POPULAR DEMAND
EXTRA PERFORMANCE
FRIDAY 22 MARCH at 7.30 p.m.
Some tickets still available for
Saturday 23 March

OPERA SPECTACULAR

Verdi: GRAND MARCH from AIDA, ANVIL CHORUS from IL TROVATORE, LA DONNA E MOBILE from RIGOLETTO, CHORUS OF THE HEBREW SLAVES from NABUCCO, BRINDISI from LA TRAVIATA. Bizet: THE PEARLFISHERS DUET, TOREADOR'S SONG from CARMEN. Puccini: NESSUN DORMA from TURANDOT, ONE FINE DAY from MADAME BUTTERFLY, O MY BELOVED FATHER from GIANNI SCHICCI. Mascagni: INTERMEZZO AND EASTER HYMN from CAVALLERIA RUSTICANA. Gounod: SOLDIERS CHORUS from FAUST. Borodin: POLOVTSIAN DANCES from PRINCE IGOR. Wagner: PILGRIMS' CHORUS from TANNHAUSER, THE RIDE OF THE VALKYRIE
MUSIC ★ LIGHTS ★ SPECTACLE
SUSAN BULLOCK
BONAVENTURA BOTTONE JASON HOWARD
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OF THE ROYAL OPERA HOUSE, COVENT GARDEN
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ROBIN STAPLETON conductor
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VICTOR HOCHHAUSER presents
at the BARBICAN

TUESDAY NEXT 19 FEBRUARY at 7.45

HANDEL-BACH MOZART

London Festival Orchestra
Conductor: *ROSS POPLE* Piano: *ANDREW HAIGH*
Violins: *RICHARD FRIEDMAN, ROBERT GIBBS*
Handel .... MUSIC FOR THE ROYAL FIREWORKS
Mozart .... BRANDENBURG CONCERTO NO. 3
Mozart .... PIANO CONCERTO NO. 21 (K467)
Bach ...... CONCERTO IN D MINOR FOR TWO VIOLINS
Mozart .... SYMPHONY NO.40 (in G Minor)
£7.50 £9.50 £11.50 £13.50 £15.50 £17.50 071-638 8891

in association with the Barbican Centre
FRIDAY 8 MARCH at 7.45

POPULAR CLASSICS

Orchestra of St John's Smith Square
Conductor: *JOHN LUBBOCK*
Clarinet: *JACK BRYMER* Trumpet: *JOHN WALLACE*
Mozart .... EINE KLEINE NACHTMUSIK
Pachelbel .... CANON
Mozart .... CLARINET CONCERTO
Handel .... WATER MUSIC
Haydn .... TRUMPET CONCERTO
Bach .... BRANDENBURG CONCERTO No. 5
£7.50 £9.50 £11.50 £13.50 £15.50 £17.50 071-638 8891

at the ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL
SUNDAY 10 MARCH at 7.30

GRAND OPERA GALA

National Symphony Orchestra
BAND OF THE ROYAL ENGINEERS PRO MUSICA CHORUS
Conductor: *SIMON JOLY*
Soprano *KATE FLOWERS* Tenor: *ANTHONY MEE*
Baritone: *MICHAEL DE COSTA*
Overture **WILLIAM TELL**, Largo al factotum **BARBER OF SEVILLE**, Chorus of the Hebrew Slaves **NABUCCO**, Una furtiva lagrima **L'ELISIR D'AMORE**, Intermezzo **CAVALLERIA RUSTICANA**, Anvil Chorus **IL TROVATORE**, Valentine's Cavatina **FAUST**, Che gelida manina, Si, mi chiamano Mimi, O soave fanciulla **LA BOHEME**, Grand March & Ballet Music **AIDA**, Duet **PEARL FISHERS**, O my beloved daddy **GIANNI SCHICCHI**, Nessun dorma **TURANDOT**, Ride of the Valkyries **THE VALKYRIE**, Toreador's Song and Chorus **CARMEN**, O Silver Moon **RUSALKA**, Polovtsian Dances **PRINCE IGOR**
£6.50 £7.50 £9.50 £12.50 £14.50 £16.50 £18.50 071-928 8800

at the ROYAL ALBERT HALL
SUNDAY 7 APRIL at 7.30

ITZHAK PERLMAN

Royal Philharmonic Orchestra
Conductor: *ANDREW LITTON*
BEETHOVEN .... VIOLIN CONCERTO
MENDELSSOHN .... VIOLIN CONCERTO
BEETHOVEN .... SYMPHONY No. 8
Royal Albert Hall Box Office & CC 071-589 8212/823 9998/225 0765

DANCE

The South Bank Centre presents
FRESH & VIBRANT
DANCE
THE HOTHOUSE
23 & 24 February
Purcell Room 8.00pm
All tickets £6.00 (concs £4.50)
see both performances for £10.00
Box Office: 071 921 8800
⊖ Waterloo/Embankment

CONCERTS

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THE INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF COUNTRY MUSIC 1991
WEMBLEY ARENA
SATURDAY 30th MARCH
JOHNNY CASH
CRYSTAL GAYLE
SUNDAY 31st MARCH
TAMMY WYNETTE
SLIM WHITMAN
PLUS FULL SUPPORTING SHOW EACH DAY
PLUS THE 'BEST OF BRITISH' SHOW Commences 2.00p.m.
AND THE EXHIBITION opens 12.00a.m.
TICKET PRICES START FROM £10 FOR ONE DAY
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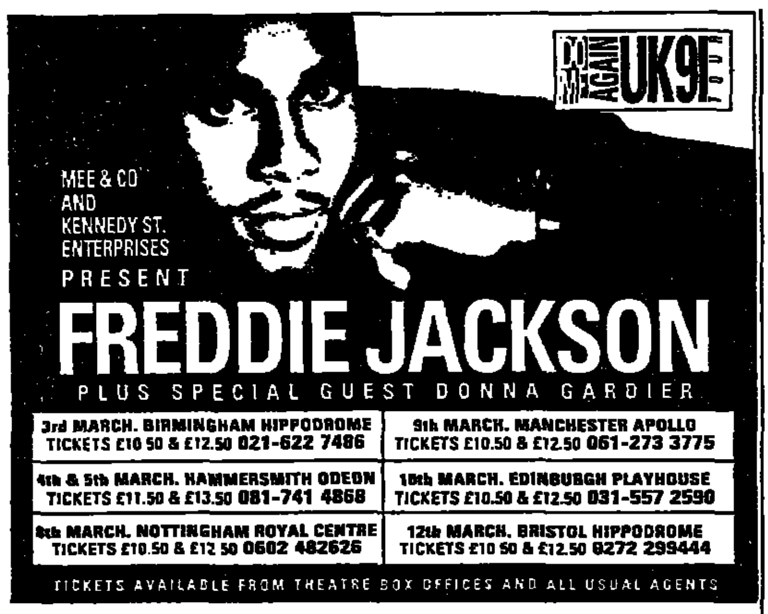
CINEMAS

CURZON PHOENIX Phoenix St, off Charing Cross Rd 071 240 9661 DECEMBER BRIDE (PG) Progs at 2.20 (not Sun) 4.25 6.35 8.40

CURZON MAYFAIR Curzon St 071 465 8865 Christopher Walken, Rupert Everett, Natasha Richardson, Helen Mirren in THE COMFORT OF STRANGERS (18) Progs at 2.00 (not Sun) 4.10, 6.20, 8.40. Last Week. From Fri MR AND MRS BRIDGES (PG)

CURZON WEST END Shaftesbury Avenue W1 071 439 4805. Derek Jacobi in THE FOOL (U) Progs at 2.15, 5.15 & 8.15. "Christine Edzard's magnificent film" Gdn Last Week. From Fri THE FIELD (12)



MEE & CO AND KENNEDY ST. ENTERPRISES PRESENT
FREDDIE JACKSON
PLUS SPECIAL GUEST DONNA GARDIER

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8th MARCH. NOTTINGHAM ROYAL CENTRE TICKETS £10.50 & £12.50 0602 482626	12th MARCH. BRISTOL HIPPODROME TICKETS £10.50 & £12.50 0272 299444

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM THEATRE BOX OFFICES AND ALL USUAL AGENTS

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM 071 836 3161 cc 071 240 5258 cc 1st Call 071 240 7200 (24hr / 7 day) 071 379 4444 **ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA** Ton't 7.30 **TURN OF THE SCREW** Tue 7.30 **OEDIPUS REX/BLUEBEARD'S CASTLE.**

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE 071 240 1066 / 1911 Standby info 836 6903. S CC 65 amphi seats avail on the day. **THE ROYAL OPERA** Today 4.30 Götterdämmerung (Reiner Goldberg replaces Rene Kollo as Siegfried) **THE ROYAL BALLET** Mon 7.30 Danses Concertantes /Winter Dreams /Raymonda Act III

THEATRES

ALDWYCH B O/CC 071-836 6404 Also CC (no bkg fee): 071-836 2428 (bkg fee) 071 793 1000 / 379 4444 LTD SEASON FROM 3 APRIL **ENGLISH SHAKESPEARE COMPANY CORIOLANUS & THE WINTER'S TALE** "Distinctive, populist and barnstorming" Ind.

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ALBERY BO & cc (no fee) 867 1115 cc (no fee) 867 1111/379 4444 bkg fee 793 1000/497 9977 BEST MUSICAL SWET Award 1983 WILLY RUSSELL'S BLOOD BROTHERS with STEPHANIE LAWRENCE "ASTONISHING...A Milestone in British Musicals" S Exp "...Brings the audience to its feet, and roaring its approval" D Mail Eves 7.45 Mats Thurs 3 Sat 4

APOLLO VICTORIA SS 071 828 8665 cc 630 6262 Grps 828 6188 cc 24hr 379 4444/240 7200 071 793 1000 Grps 930 6123 Eves 7.45 Mats Tue & Sat 3.0 SEVENTH HIT YEAR! STARLIGHT EXPRESS Music by ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER Lyrics by RICHARD STILGOE Directed by TREVOR NUNN SOME SEATS AVAIL THIS WEEK OAP's £5 on Tues Mats NOW BOOKING TO 28 SEPT

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FORTUNE Box Office & cc 071 836 2238 24hr cc bkg fee 071 497 9977 (24hr) 071 793 1000 Susan Hill's THE WOMAN IN BLACK Adapted by Stephen Mallatratt "A BRILLIANTLY EFFECTIVE SPINE CHILLER" Guardian "MASTERLY" Exp CHILLING" Ind "Take Tranquillisers" T Out Eves 8 Mats Tue 3 & Sat 4 "HOORAY FOR HORROR" D Mail NOW BOOKING TO MAY '91

GARRICK BO & CC 071 379 6107 cc 379 4444 (no bkg fee) 240 7200/793 1000 (bkg fee) Grps 930 6123 THE REHEARSAL by JEAN ANOUILH "A VERY HOT TICKET" T Out Eves 7.45 Sat 4 & 8 Mat Tue 3

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DENZIL McNEELANCE

Ronnie Spector: Sixties singer with a faded pout, a slightly croakier voice, but a hairdo as wild as ever

The best part is breaking up

Quintessential voice of the Sixties, former wife of the inimitable Phil: Ronnie Spector, by Barney Hoskyns

The snowbound metropolis of London holds many memories for Ronnie Spector. When she was riding high in the mid-Sixties with the Ronettes, that vampy girl group to end all girl groups, she was squired around town by no less than the Beatles and the Rolling Stones. "Oh, the clubs they had then," she sighs wistfully, recalling the great days of the Ad Lib and the Crazy Elephant. What she remembers best about Swinging London, however, is her jealous boyfriend and Svengali, Phil Spector, who used to jet in from America to make sure the young guns of the British invasion were keeping their paws off her petite and kittenish body.

The story is merely one of countless examples of Phil Spector's attempts to control the diminutive beauty who was to become his wife (and virtually his prisoner) four years later. Having turned the Ronettes into superstars with classic pop hits such as "Be My Baby" (1963) and "Baby I Love You" (1964), the powerful maestro — the first and most definitive example of the record producer as apparent *auteur* — decided that little Veronica Bennett from Spanish Harlem was not simply his creation but his property. By the time she was finally free of his clutches in 1972 she was an alcoholic and an emotional wreck without a career.

A quarter-century after John Lennon attempted to seduce her at a house in Mayfair, Ronnie Spector is back in town to promote *Be My Baby*, an autobiography inevitably dominated by the seemingly autocratic figure of her ex-husband and mentor. If the irresistible pout of 17-year-old Veronica has faded over the years, and the New York tenement voice is a mite croakier, the wild hairdo is still in place. It is not difficult to make out the innocent street princess Phil Spector fell in love with. "I think what the audience liked about us was that they knew we weren't as brassy as we seemed," she says. "That's what turned them on. It was just our gimmick, what made us different from all the other girl groups."

Simply as a story of one man's dominance over a woman, *Be My Baby* makes a fairly harrowing read. Not content with incarcerating her in a Beverly Hills compound, complete with ferocious guard dogs, Spector dictated what Ronnie could wear, read, and watch on TV, then tried to make up for his tyrannical cruelty by buying her children as presents. "When we got married," she says, "I think he took all of the obsessions of his work and poured them into me. I became his obsession." She did not believe he was insane, however, even when he presented her with an inflatable Phil Spector doll to put in the passenger seat on the occasional shopping trips she was permitted. "I think Phil became a replica of what he read about himself," she says damningly. "If they said he was a genius, he became a genius. If they said he was a *mad* genius, that's what he became. I actually think he's quite sane."

How she could have put up with Spector for so long is then the question. "I put up with him for that long because I was fearful and I didn't know any different. I didn't know how to say 'Leave me alone' or 'I don't *want* to watch *Citizen Kane* tonight.' The first time I woke up in a sanitarium after getting away from Phil, I found out that I could read any book that I wanted to read. I heard Carole King's *Tapestry* album for the first time, because Phil never allowed rock'n'roll in the house." Asked if *Be My Baby* is an instructive book for women in general, she says that it is definitely "not just for women entertainers, or for women who are married to rich and powerful men."

One of the prices Ronnie has paid for being the former Mrs Phil Spector is that most people, especially fellow musicians, are more curious to know about the sub-Howard Hughes legend of the producer of those glorious "little symphonies for the kids" than they are to know about her. When she cut sides (like the aptly-titled Billy Joel song "Say Goodbye to Hollywood") with Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band in the Seventies, they drove her mad with questions about "how many pianos Phil used on 'Be My Baby'. . . ". Even promoting her book she contends with the same problem, since journalists tend to identify with paranoid producers before abused stars.

Ronnie may never achieve the belated mega-success of Cher or Tina Turner, two other women who broke free of the domineering clutches of their husbands, but she has at least joined the likes of Little Richard and Dion in salvaging an extraordinary story from the ashes of her career. "After I saw *Lady Sings the Blues*," she says, "I said 'I wanna be the first rock 'n' roller to survive all of it — the alcohol, the drugs.' I did everything in my power to keep on track, because this business can floor you. I wanted to tell the story and still maintain my sanity." This she has done admirably.

● *Be My Baby* is published by MacMillan at £14.99.

Vivid awareness of the national colour of roots

THEATRE

White Chameleon
Cottesloe

"PLEASE don't send me to the Persian Gulf" was the anachronistic-sounding plea from Christopher Hampton's father when he was due for a new posting in 1952. Unfortunately for him, but fortunately for posterity, Cable and Wireless listened. The company kept him in Alexandria throughout the years of nationalist fervour that culminated in the Suez affair. Thus did his 10-year-old son, the dramatist-to-be, learn what it was to be an exile and outsider, like so many characters in his plays.

It was, surely, a more exciting period and place than Hampton's dramatic autobiography or Richard Eyre's cool, spare production suggest. But then the play's emphasis is less on political turmoil, more on its glancing effects on a susceptible mind. For the boy Hampton, the triumph of Nasser means not knowing if riots will stop him seeing *East of Eden* at Alexandria's Rialto. It means singing the new national anthem with Egypt's cross-Channel swimming team, whom he happens to meet on a liner to Britain. It means hearing his mother sobbing upstairs and becoming dimly aware of a rift between her and his father.

This is the second childhood memoir the National has presented recently; and if this is a trend, it is worth encouraging. Like Brian Friel's all-Irish *Dancing at Lughnasa*, *White Chameleon* communicates a sense of loss, disintegration. It is less rich, subtle and moving, perhaps; but it is sensitive and diverting, a play to hearten those who feel that Hampton has been spending too much time adapting the likes of *Les Liaisons Dangereuses* and too little listening to his own somewhat forlorn muse.

Two Christophers tread Bob Crowley's austere set, often concurrently. Thus David Birkin, giving a nice, unaffected performance as the boy, plays hide-and-seek with his chums while Tom Wilkinson, the wry, ruminative adult, meanders round the bleached chairs describing his mental and emotional furniture.

Just to complicate things, Wilkinson intermittently removes his specs to become Hampton *père*, an engineer convinced, unlike Suzanne Burden's pained, aloof Hampton *mère*, that "we've done very well out of Egypt, now we have to give it back". But the dramatic technique works well enough. Clarity is never a problem.

Gradually, it becomes evident what Christopher means when he confides that "the man with roots takes them for granted while the man with no roots is vividly aware of them, like a phantom ache in an amputated limb". Now he is beaten up as a "filthy British" by Egyptian children, and now he is back in the supposed safety of a Surrey prep-school, being attacked as a "wog-lover" by his compatriots. Clearly, he has something in common with his pet chameleon, able to make its superficial adjustments to any environment, but destroyed when lightning strikes its favourite tree.

DONALD COOPER

Uprooted: Tom Wilkinson (top) and David Birkin

The same image applies to the most sympathetic character, the family manservant, Ibrahim. A less canny author than Hampton, a less robust actor than Saeed Jaffrey, might sentimentalise his eccentricities. After all, he says things such as "Sir Winston must tell Sir Eden to pull up his socks and not be a silly man", taking a surreptitious swig of whisky as he adds that he is "very neutral pro-British".

But when the lightning strikes him, and he may even die as a "collaborator", there is something genuinely dignified about his loyalty and painful about his predicament. He knows that he too is rootless, marooned between two worlds, and he is thus prepared to accept all the consequences.

That makes for a moving ending, but the appeal of the rest of the evening is rather different. This is the play that gently explains how Hampton became a dramatist and why he ended up writing *Savages*, *Tales from Hollywood* and *The Philanthropist*. Not belonging has always been his theme. Here is the story behind it.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

TELEVISION REVIEW

'I think I'd rather watch the sandwich'

Lynne Truss looks at everyday trials in *The Secret Life of Machines, Shrinks, Roseanne, Cutting Edge* and *40 Minutes*

Speaking as someone brought up to believe that interference on a television screen could be corrected by jumping up and down on a particular spot on the carpet, I have found Tim Hunkin's series on The Secret Life of Machines (Channel 4) a bit of an eye-opener. His programmes are designed to take household appliances and demystify them for us, proving that they are simpler than they look. But since I have always regarded household appliances as things that function entirely according to mood ("I see Mr Kettle has got the hump again"), their effect on me has been quite the reverse.

From his programme about the telephone, for example, I discovered that telephone exchanges are mechanically quite complex, and that my cherished pet theory about wrong numbers could not possibly be true (the presence of salt under the fingernails of the dialler really can have no influence whatever). But the reason I mention Hunkin is that this week's programme inadvertently cast a whole new light on the video recorder. Hunkin's assistant explained that one of the problems with videos is that pesky children, driven by an infantile urge to emulate their elders, may insert unsuitable items through the slot on the front when nobody is looking. What sort of things? Well, slices of toast, he said. And jam sandwiches.

I found this idea oddly appealing. Do children think of this terrific wheeze unaided, or are they prompted by warnings such as, "And if I find you've put that sandwich in the video there'll be hell to pay"? Also, do exhausted parents then sit in front of the telly and watch the jam sandwich for an hour or two before discovering the ghastly truth? No doubt they then weigh up the pros and cons: "*Dad's Army* is on in a minute." "I think I'd rather watch the jam sandwich." "All right, suits me."

As yet, none of the psychiatrists in Shrinks (Thames) has dealt with the syndrome of video abuse, but it can only be a matter of time. The 90-minute opening episode on Wednesday was packed stiff with sensational events — wife-battering, child neglect, impotence, death — no doubt in the faint hope of disguising the fact that there was something familiar about the formula. But what was it? I racked my brains. Umm. Where had I seen a series about a high-class professional group practice, which holds impassioned meetings about the morality of its cases? Tsk. Why did I keep expecting to hear American accents and see Los Angeles courtrooms? Sniff. And why did I have to struggle against the conviction that I was watching Channel 4 on a Saturday night?

It was well acted, though, with Bill Paterson as compelling as ever. The fact that it had nothing to do with psychoanalysis as most people experience it — for one thing, no actual dosh changed hands — didn't seem to matter, what with all the clothes and cars and spacious Georgian properties. The really troubling thing about *Shrinks* was something else entirely: it was the way the women were repeatedly portrayed as incapable of shouldering moral responsibility. "No, I can't make this decision!" was their anguished cry. I hope this lamentable weak-willed-woman characteristic does not persist. Perhaps the writers should ask themselves why they are angry with their mothers.

Nice to see Roseanne back on Friday nights (Channel 4). Perhaps I am merely over-compensating for the lack of psychoanalysis in *Shrinks*, but watching last night's episode I suddenly felt I understood the deep-down attraction of this series. Roseanne's version of parenthood is the wish-fulfilment of a child: she revels in ordering people around, kicking butt and always (yes, always) getting the final word. Last night she did a pregnancy test and told the children that if it proved positive she expected their support. "I'm not asking for it," she snarled. "You're just gonna give it."

But if Roseanne creates the illusion of a child having power, this week's Cutting Edge (called "Relative Strangers") brutally demonstrated the opposite case, being about the supreme power of mothers to hurt children, even ones they have barely met. It focused on Ariel Bruce, who tracks down women who gave their babies for adoption. Bruce encourages the unwanted children (now grown up) to risk further rejection by making contact. What sort of person takes a job like this? No doubt in her spare time she finds hornets' nests and pokes them with a stick.

"Relative Strangers" was at times almost unbearable to watch. One of Bruce's clients was a man with a withered arm who had been adopted at birth. She found out for him that he was the fourth child in a family of six, and broke the terrible news that all five siblings had been brought up by his natural mother. As he fought back his anguish, Bruce demonstrated the mingy "counselling" part of her service by touching him lightly on the arm and asking him if he was all right.

Ultimately he travelled to meet his family, and the story appeared to end in dreamlike happiness, with his mother professing she had regretted losing him. She even said she had always hoped he would one day seek her out. She gave the slightly fishy impression, in fact, of someone who welcomed long-lost sons into the family every day of her life.

Finally to 40 Minutes, a thoroughly inconsequential portrait of life in Surbiton designed to confound those of us who sneer at commuter-land. It was apparently the brainchild of Surbitonite novelist Wendy Perriam, a shrill woman who evidently needs to prove to the world that Surbiton is at least as interesting a place for a novelist to live as Montparnasse or Washington Square. Look, she said, I can just pop around the corner to the Surbiton YMCA and find there all the characters I need — widows, retired majors, weight-lifters, the lot. Would I exchange an NW3 address for this? Would I nelly.

Well, bully for her. I must confess I had already formed a dislike for Wendy Perriam before seeing this programme, on the basis of a previous appearance on *40 Minutes*, defending her ownership of a fur coat. Her argument was that minks in the wild are vicious hunters of newts and frogs; thus, the owner of a fur coat is actually responsible for saving the lives of countless amphibians, and deserves a vote of thanks from Ken Livingstone. Has she noticed, I wonder, that the fur trade has failed to pounce on this ingenious argument? I have not yet seen the posters, anyway: "Buy a mink and save a newt".

Wisecracking mother: Roseanne Barr with John Goodman, her husband in *Roseanne*

BRIEFING

Retiring gracefully

RUDOLF Nureyev has just announced his so-called "farewell tour" of Britain. Starting on April 26 at the Empire Theatre in Sunderland, the Russian ballet star will be joined by guests from around the world. It was almost exactly 30 years ago that the former Kirov star made his famous leap to freedom at a Paris airport. By the time the tour begins, he will be 53. The tour, which ends in Brighton on May 17, includes a performance on May 3 at Wembley Arena.

Shuffle westwards

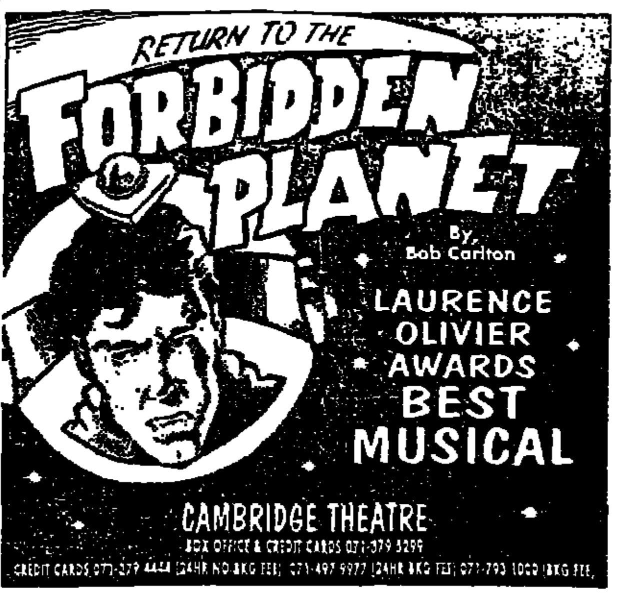
THOSE who were frustrated in their attempt to get tickets for *Dancing at Lughnasa* during its sold-out run at the National Theatre will be pleased to know that Brian Friel's play makes its West End debut next month. The Irish play will follow *Into the Woods* at the Phoenix Theatre for a limited engagement which begins on March 18. *Dancing* was expected to open on Broadway on March 27, but producer Noel Pearson decided to postpone the New York transfer until the autumn when the climate for plays should be healthier.

Best of British

THE Oscar nominations, revealed this week, quite engulfed the film nominations announced by the British Academy of Film and Television Arts. With good reason, too: many of the titles on Bafta's list, drawn from films enjoyed by members over the past calendar year, seem like ancient history. One of this year's nominees, for example, is *Driving Miss Daisy*, which was released in Britain last March, and has already won three Oscars. Other Best Film contenders on this year's list are *Crimes and Misdemeanours*, *Pretty Woman*, and *GoodFellas*. There are no nominations for this year's big Oscar contender, *Dances with Wolves*, although *Postcards from the Edge* receives three. The awards will be presented on March 17, eight days before the Oscars.

Last chance . . .

BOB Dylan completes his extended residency at west London's Hammersmith Odeon (081-748 4081) with shows tonight and tomorrow night. Now out of touch with the modern world, the former spokesman of a generation has become an erratic performer whose shows are entirely subject to caprice. With material taken mostly from his Sixties portfolio, and a sparky new backing band of no discernible pedigree struggling to read its boss's unpredictable mind, the results vary from the mundane to the heroic.



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THE SUNDAY TIMES
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Sinead O'Connor, interviewed in The Sunday Times tomorrow.

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6.40 Open University: Special needs in education 7.05 Pure maths
7.30 Babar. Animated tales of the little elephant 7.55 Eggs 'n' Baker. Cheryl Baker presents the cookery programme with two live bands, a new video and a recipe 8.35 BraveStarr (r)
9.00 Going Live! Sarah Greene and Philip Schofield present the children's magazine programme. The guests include Rene Zagger and Samantha Lewis from the cast of *Grange Hill*, birds of prey expert Jemima Parry-Jones and children's author Paula Danziger. Live music is provided by Chris Rea 12.12 Weather
12.15 Grandstand *introduced by Desmond Lynam.* The line-up is (subject to alteration): 12.20 Football: a preview of today's FA Cup fifth round ties, 12.50 News; 12.55 A Tribute to Ron Pickering followed by Rugby Union preview; 1.05 Ice Hockey: the Heineken *league match between Durham Wasps and Ayr Raiders;* 1.45 Indoor Bowls followed by Indoor Athletics from Stuttgart, 2.10 Rugby Union: live coverage of the Calcutta Cup match between England and Scotland at Twickenham; 3.55 Football half-times; *4.00 Rugby Union: highlights of the game in Cardiff between* Wales and Ireland, 4.40 Racing: a recording of the 4.05 race from Leopardstown — the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup; 4.45 Final Score
5.20 Regional News and sport. Wales (to 5.50) Wales on Saturday
5.25 Stay Tooned! Tony Robinson presents a selection of his favourite cartoons from around the world
5.50 Jim'll Fix It. Jimmy Savile turns dreams into reality for a girl who *wants to co-host the Radio 1 Roadshow with Philip Schofield* and a young man who is fascinated by powerboat racing (Ceefax)
6.25 'Allo 'Allo. Second world war resistance farce with dreadful accents and even worse jokes. René (Gorden Kaye), in his other *hat of editor of the local newspaper,* organises a competition to find a woman of strength, beauty and virtue to represent the "Spirit of Nouvion". Of course, Edith (Carmen Silvera) decides to enter (Ceefax)
6.55 The Paul Daniels Magic Show. Theatre critic Sheridan Morley returns to open the envelope he was given last week to reveal a startling prediction. He is joined by high-speed artist Denny Dent. (Ceefax)
7.40 Bergerac: The Waiting Game. After a brief sojourn in France, sunny Jim (John Nettles) is back on scenic Jersey, investigating companies seeking trade licences on the island. Drippy girlfriend Danielle is sure that Jim is in danger, but cannot convince anyone. Cheerful Charlie Hungerford (Terence Alexander), Jersey's answer to Arthur Daley, continues to provide the brightest moments. (Ceefax)
8.35 Don't Wait Up. Easy-going comedy about the father and son doctors. Toby becomes involved in a deception and ends up in a *doggy situation. Tom has his own problem, but this has more to do* with the lack of hot water rather than landing in it. Stars Tony Britton and Nigel Havers (r) (Ceefax)
9.05 News and Sport with Martyn Lewis. (Ceefax) Weather
9.25 *Midnight Caller: The Hostage Game. Polished American drama* about Jack Killiam (Gary Cole), a cop turned radio talk-show host. Killian's meeting with an old friend turns into a day of desperation. The man's brother is an American priest held on board an airliner *hijacked by a Colombian drug cartel that will do anything to win the* freedom of one of its members. (Ceefax)
10.15 The Full Wax. American comedienne Ruby Wax with more spontaneous conversation, interviews and comedy, *all designed to show how wacky she is.* The co-host is the jumbo-sized comedian Mike McShane (of *Who's Line Is It Anyway?*) and guests include Elaine Stritch and Cindy Jackson
10.50 Match of the Day: The Road to Wembley. Desmond Lynam introduces action from three of today's FA Cup fifth round ties. That is, if he can find three, with one to be played tomorrow and another on Monday, two fourth round matches still undecided and the rest at the mercy of the weather

Hunting bounty and bounty hunted: Yul Brynner (midnight)

12.00 Film: Catlow (1971). Enjoyable and good-natured Western with beautiful Spanish scenery. Yul Brynner leads as the cowboy Catlow who is chased down to Mexico to find some hidden gold, but instead finds his life in danger from a creepy bounty hunter. With Richard Crenna and *Startrek's* Leonard Nimoy. Directed by Sam Wanamaker. (Ceefax)
1.40 Weather

BBC 2

6.50 Open University
2.45 Mahabharat. Subtitled Indian epic in 91 parts
3.25 Film: Johnny Angel (1945, b/w). George Raft, Claire Trevor and Signe Hasso star in this solidly crafted melodrama about sea captain Johnny Angel's attempt to avenge the murder of his father. Darkly atmospheric, the film combines strong acting with clever psychological undertones and the plotting is satisfyingly complicated. Directed by Edwin L. Marin
4.40 Fruity Passions. Margaret Vaughan concludes her series by sampling sorrel punch on a railway embankment and making a sherry from parsnips, apples and sultanas which presumably tastes better than it sounds (r). (Ceefax)
5.10 Bowls. Dougie Donnelly presents action from the second day of *the* Midland Bank world indoor championships at the Guild Hall in Preston
6.15 Late Again. This week's highlights from the arts and media programme, *The Late Show*
7.00 News and weather
7.15 Wainwright. The veteran fell walker, who died recently, on the last leg of his 190-mile coast to coast journey (r)
7.45 The Trial of George Washington.
● CHOICE: A convincing exercise in legal reconstruction imagines George Washington visiting London in 1779 to defend himself against a charge of high treason for leading the American colonists in armed rebellion against the British Crown. Shot in the Great Hall of Lincoln's Inn, the trial uses real lawyers and judges, with the witnesses, including Washington himself, played by historical experts. The proceedings are unscripted. We have a South African QC, wigged and gowned, for the prosecution and a team of lounge-suited American lawyers for the defence. As in real courts there is much playing to the gallery, not least by the impersonators of Lord North and Benjamin Franklin, both of whom have acting careers for the taking. No one will pretend that the judgment, delivered in three minutes flat, comes as a great surprise. But the verbal jousting that precedes it is entertainment of high quality
9.05 French and Saunders. More sketches from one of the better British comic duos. With special guests Mark Knopfler, Dave Gilmour, Lemmy, Mark King and Gary Moore (r)
9.35 John Sessions's Tall Tales: There's *Nowt So Queer As Folk.* The fifth of six one-man plays written and performed by the inventive John Sessions. Tonight's unlikely story concerns William and Dorothy Wordsworth and their drug-crazed lodger, Samuel Taylor Coleridge

Mixing politics and rock music: China's Ciu Jian (10.00pm)

10.00 Rhythms of the World: China Rocks — the Long March of Cui Jian.
● CHOICE: Up to five or six years ago there was no rock music in China and youngsters wanting an idol to worship had to make do with Chairman Mao. Enter Cui Jian, dubbed the Chinese Bob Dylan and the country's first rock star. Like his counterparts in the West he can fill huge stadiums with frenzied fans. But unlike most western performers, he cannot see rock music as separate from politics. "Rock," he declares, "is the most direct way to other people's thoughts." He treads carefully and his lyrics are often deliberately oblique. But his song "Nothing to My Name" became an anthem for the student protesters of Tiananmen Square. Greg Lanning's film mixes interview and live performance to follow Cui Jian's progress from promising boy trumpeter to hero of Chinese youth. It also charts the growing opposition of the authorities, to the point where they have banned him from giving live concerts
11.00 Twin Peaks. David Lynch's cult mystery comes close to answering the vital question. But there are still many episodes to go. Starring Kyle MacLachlan, Michael Ontkean and Piper Laurie (r) (Ceefax)
11.50 The Film Club. Director Krzysztof Kieslowski introduces Interrogation (1981, b/w). Adam Ferency and Krystyna Janda star in a powerful Polish film about a girl who falls into the hands of the secret police and is subjected to demeaning and harrowing ordeals. Banned for several years, the film was a hit of last year's Cannes festival, where Janda won the best actress award for her memorable performance as the girl whose experiences range from a mock execution to an affair with the interrogator who tries to get her to inform on a friend. Directed by Ryszard Bugajski. In Polish with English subtitles. Ends at 1.50am

ITV

6.00 TV-am. Beatrice Hollyer opens with a news bulletin followed by Gulf news presented by Maya Even. Mike Morris and Lorraine Kelly take over at 7.00 with Gulf news and home news 8.00 Hey Hey It's Saturday Cartoons
9.25 Motormouth. Children's magazine show with music, guests and videos. The guests include Kim Appleby and the LAs. There are also highlights of the Siberian husky race at Aviemore
11.30 The ITV Chart Show. The *Vintage Video* slot features Ellis, Beggs & Howard
12.30 Saint & Greavsie. Ian St John and Jimmy Greaves preview the fifth round of the FA Cup and place their bets on who will be playing in the quarter-finals
1.00 News (Oracle) and weather 1.05 LWT News and weather
1.10 Grand Sportsmasters. Dickie Davies hosts the quiz to find the sporting brain of Britain
1.40 World Sport Special. A look at the week's important sporting action from around the world
2.10 The Day. An eventful 24 hours in the life *of a member of the public* (r)
2.15 Golf: PGA Tour '91. Action from the Bob Hope Chrysler Classic
3.10 Film: Escape to Burma (1955). Barbara Stanwyck stars in a tepid but enjoyable drama as the owner of a tea plantation who shelters Robert Ryan, on the run for theft and murder. Directed by Allan Dwan
4.45 News and weather
5.00 Results Service presented by Elton Welsby
5.10 LWT News and weather
5.15 Beverly Hills, 90210: The 17-Year Itch. The series which managed to irritate millions on its first screening continues regardless, with teenage *angst* and many a moral tale told through the lives of a Midwestern family experiencing culture shock on moving to glitzy Beverly Hills (Oracle)
6.10 Catchphrase. The game show in which Roy Walker invites contestants to recognise some occasionally very odd combinations of words

Charitable game for another laugh: Matthew Kelly (6.40pm)

6.40 You Bet! It's Saturday, it's peak time, so it must be another jolly public participation show. Having wrung dry the public's affection for Jeremy Beadle, LWT pushes its luck with another former *Game for a Laugh* star, Matthew Kelly, who replaces Bruce Forsyth as the host in this physical and mental challenge show. Celebrities Vicki Michelle, Nick Skelton and Brian Glover join Kelly in challenging fame-hungry bods to perform weird and pointless feats such as knocking coconuts off cones with the back wheel of a motorcycle, or dunking tea bags into a teapot from a great height. But as it's all for charity, this excuses a lot. Or does it?
7.40 Film: From Russia with Love (1963). Sean Connery at his most seductive, suave and insolent in the second Bond movie and arguably the best of the lot. Agent 007 battles to outwit a Russian spy who has joined forces with an international crime syndicate to steal a coding machine and kill Bond. The action takes Bond to Istanbul and Venice and includes stunts involving a speeding train and a helicopter. Daniela Bianchi provides the romantic interest. Directed by Terence Young
9.45 News, sport and weather 10.00 LWT weather
10.05 Aspel & Company. Michael Aspel invites Dawn French in for a chat and talks to her about her leading role in Ben Elton's new play *Silly Cow*. They are joined by actor John Hurt and Status Quo
10.50 Jake and the Fatman: Side by Side. Detective tales with William Conrad and Joe Penny. The attempted murder of a newspaper editor leaves McCabe stranded on a remote Hawaiian island, being stalked by assassins
11.50 Diamond Awards Festival 1990. A marathon rock and pop extravaganza designed to test the endurance of even the most hardened music lover. The acts include Maxi Priest, Duran Duran, Jimmy Sommerville, Jason Donovan, Kim Wilde, Kylie Minogue, Soul II Soul and the Human League, but it is a long time to wait if your favourite is on last
4.10 The Hit Man and Her. More gyrations from a disco somewhere in Britain with Pete Waterman and Michaela Strachan
5.10 Backstage
5.30 ITN Morning News. Ends at 6.00

CHANNEL 4

6.00 Comic Book. Cartoons 7.00 Trans World Sport
8.00 The Channel Four Daily with the latest news from the Gulf
9.15 Channel 4 Racing: *The Morning Line*
9.25 Sing and Swing. Jazz acts from the Thirties and Forties (r)
9.30 Listening Eye: Signs of Our Times. Peter Jackson, author of *Britain's Deaf Heritage*, discusses how the deaf community can preserve and develop their culture. Last in the series (r)
10.00 North Pole Expedition. The story of an expedition made by three Norwegians and a Canadian who set out on snow scooters for the North Pole
10.30 Film: *Just William's Luck (1947, b/w). Continuing* a short series of films featuring Richmal Crompton's rascally schoolboy hero. Directed by Val Guest 12.15 Platon. Animation
12.30 The Munsters: Family Portrait (b/w) America's spookiest family is dismemberd (r)
1.00 Film: The Magic Box (1952). Robert Donat as British film pioneer William Friese-Greene in a film made for the Festival of Britain. Set in 19th century London, the film follows the life of a portrait photographer who became obsessed with moving pictures. *There* are sterling performances from Margaret Johnston and Maria Schell as the hero's wives and notable cameos by Laurence Olivier (as a policeman), Michael Redgrave, Richard Attenborough and Margaret Rutherford. But it is more like pageant than a drama, and a not very exciting one. Directed by John Boulting
3.00 Channel 4 Racing from Leopardstown. Live coverage of the 3.05, 3.35 and 4.05 (Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup) races
4.35 Sand and Sweat. A documentary about a desert marathon
5.05 Brookside. Omnibus edition (r). (Teletext)
6.30 Right to Reply. The BBC's coverage of the Gulf conflict, *Without Walls — Hidden Faces* and the *Brit Awards* are this week's topics
7.00 The World This Week. *Includes Sergei Grigoriev, spokesman for* President Gorbachev, and Manfred Worner, secretary-general of Nato, on the future of arms control in Europe. Followed by Weather
8.00 The Land of Europe: Pytalovo.
● CHOICE: *The international series on rural life continues* with a gloomy offering from the Soviet Union. The gloom hangs over both style and substance as the director, Vladimir Diakonov, takes his camera crew to a small farming community on the Soviet-Latvian *border. Even in May the place* looks like death and Diakonov makes it seem even worse than it is by shooting at dusk or bathing his images in heavy shadow. The human story concerns a former KGB detective and his wife who work on a farming collective. It is a *life he has chosen* but he still finds it demeaning, dominated by a system that stifles dignity and ambition. The town seems so hopeless that when a woman takes to the streets to protest at conditions, she is barracked by her fellow citizens. An Italia prize winner, Diakonov is said to be planning to leave the Soviet Union and work in the West. No one who sees this film will blame him. (Teletext)
9.00 LA Law. Kuzak (Harry Hamlin) compromises himself to win the right to defend a big pharmaceutical company (r). (Teletext)

Liberated from a life painting gnomes: Nabil Shaban (10.00pm)

10.00 4 Play: Deptford Graffiti.
● CHOICE. A second series of dramas by writers more or less new to television opens with Sheila Fox's "contemporary fairy story" about George, a disabled dwarf, who strikes up an unlikely friendship with a gang of hell's angels. It is a strength of the piece that George is never presented sentimentally. He is vain and selfish and manipulates people. But he deserves more from life than to spend it in a wheelchair painting garden gnomes in a home for incurables. The hell's angels, despite also existing on the fringe of "normal" society, are hardly natural allies but they offer him the chance to escape and to express his artistic talent more usefully by masterminding a public mural. George is played with engaging frankness by the disabled actor Nabil Shaban, and Sharon Maiden is the bike girl who tears down his emotional barriers
11.10 The Secret Cabaret. The show where the unexpected always happens, but there won't be any surprises if you saw this on its first run. Simon Drake hosts a mixture of bizarre magic, disturbing visual effects, and off-the-wall entertainment (r)
11.40 After Dark. Open-ended discussion on the wider shores of love

SATELLITE

SKY ONE

● Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites. 6.00am Elephant Boy 6.30 The Flying Kiwi 7.00 Fun Factory 11.00 The Bionic Woman 12.00 Beyond 2000 1.00pm Combat 2.00 WWF Wrestling Challenge 3.00 Cool Cube 5.00 Chopper Squad 6.00 Parker Lewis Can't Lose 6.30 The Addams Family 7.00 *Free Spirit 7.30 In Living Color 8.00 China* Beach 9.00 Designing Women 9.30 Murphy Brown 10.00 The Happening 11.30 Monsters 12.00 A Twist in the Tale 12.30am Pages from Skytext

SKY NEWS

● Via the Astra satellite.
News on the hour
5.30am European Business Today 6.30 The Reporters 9.30 Nightline with Ted Koppel 10.30 Motor Sports News 11.30 Health Circuit 12.30pm Fashion TV 1.30 The Reporters 2.30 International Business Report Week 3.30 Health Circuit 4.30 Motor Sports News 5.00 Live at Five 5.30 Fashion TV 6.30 The Reporters 7.30 International *Business Report 8.30 Health Circuit 10.30* Fashion TV 11.30 The Reporters 12.30am International Business Report Week 1.30 CBS News 2.30 Those Were the Days 3.30 CBS News 4.30 Motor Sports News

SKY NEWS

● Via the Marcopolo satellite.
News on the hour.
5.30am European Business Today 6.30 The Reporters 9.30 Nightline with Ted Koppel 10.30 Motor Sports News 11.30 Health Circuit 12.30pm Fashion TV 1.30pm Opera: *Rossini Double Bill — La Cambiale di* Matrimonio II Signor Bruschino 4.30 Concert: Cyprien Katsaris 6.30 The Reporters 7.30 Makarova's Swan Lake 10.30 Jazz: The Modern Jazz Quartet 11.30 The Reporters *12.30am International Business Report* Week 1.30 CBS News 2.30 Those Were the Days 3.30 CBS News 4.30 Motor Sports News

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SKY MOVIES

● Via the Astra satellite.
6.00am Showcase
8.00 Heading for Glory (1974): The 1974 World Cup Finals
10.00 Moonwalker (1988): A guided tour of Michael Jackson's fantasy world
12.00 The Bells of St Mary's (1945): Bing Crosby's priest takes charge of a poor Catholic school
2.00pm Transformers — the Movie (1986): Cartoon adventures
4.00 Unholy Matrimony (1988): A cop sets *out to foil the perfect crime*
6.00 Who's That Girl (1987): Griffin Dunne is given the task of escorting former convict Madonna out of town
7.40 Entertainment Tonight
8.00 Major League (1989): An incompetent baseball team hit upon a winning streak. Starring Tom Berenger and Charlie Sheen
10.00 Physical Evidence (1989): When cop Burt Reynolds is accused of murder, *Theresa Russell comes to his defence*
11.40 They're Playing with Fire (1984): An English teacher (Sybil Danning) persuades one of her students to kill her mother
1.30am Mississippi Burning (1988): FBI agents Willem Dafoe and Gene Hackman investigate the disappearance of three civil rights workers
4.00 Out of the Body (1988): A student dabbles with the paranormal. Ends at 5.30

EUROSPORT

● Via the Astra satellite.
6.00am Children's Programming 7.00 Fun Factory 8.30 Saturday Alive: Ford Ski Report, World Cup Skiing, Nordic Skiing World Championships, Bobsleigh World Championships, Oslo Open Tennis, Indoor *Athletics, Nordic Skiing Highlights 5.45pm* BOC Round the World Yacht Race 6.00 Nordic World Championship Ski Jumping 9.30 Boxing 11.00 Bobsleigh World Championships 11.30 World Cup Today 12.30am *Parkfield British Off-Road Championships*

SCREENSPORT

● Via the Astra satellite.
7.00am Citroen Ski Europe 8.00 World Snooker Classics 10.00 ATP Volvo Mens Indoor Tennis 12.00 Stop-Mud and Monsters 1.00pm Motorsport World Rally Champs *2.00 NBA Basketball 4.00 Powersports 5.00* Spain Spain Sport 5.15 US Pro Ski Tour 6.00 Hippodrome French Racing 6.35 Weekend Live Ice Hockey — NHL 1991 9.35 Motor Sport Busch Clash 10.05 Athletics: *Vitalis/Meadowlands 12.05am Pro Box 2.05* Miami College Football 3.05 Spain Spain Sport 3.20 Pro Ski Tour 4.05 ATP Volvo Tennis Indoor — Men 6.00 World Professional Figure Skating Championship

MTV

● Via the Astra satellite.
Twenty-four hours of rock and pop

LIFESTYLE

● Via the Astra satellite.
12.00 Johnny Ringo 12.30pm The Bill Dana *Show 1.00 The Joan Rivers Show 1.50 He* Shoots! He Scores 2.45 Spain Spain Holiday 3.00 World Class Championship Wrestling 4.00 The Sell-a-Vision Shopping Channel 8.00 Close 10.00 Satellite Jukebox

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

● Via the Marcopolo satellite.
12.55pm Deadly Dream (1971): Lloyd Bridges is on the verge of a scientific breakthrough
2.15 *Zany's* Bride (1963): Gene Hackman's mail-order bride (Liv Ullman) has a mind of her own
4.00 Dragnet (1987): Tom Hanks's unorthodox cop is saddled with a strait-laced partner (Dan Aykroyd) in this parody of the Fifties television series
6.00 North Shore (1987): A surfer from Arizona rides the waves in Hawaii
8.00 Hollow Point (1987): A San Francisco therapist stumbles across three murders
10.00 Spell Binder (1988): An LA attorney rescues a woman whom he believes to be the girl of his dreams
11.40 The Untouchables (1987): Federal Agent Eliot Ness leads the fight against Al Capone and the Mob in Thirties Chicago
1.40am Tree of Hands (1989): A Ruth Rendell mystery in which a young mother's life is plunged into chaos when her young son is rushed to hospital. Ends at 3.10

THE SPORTS CHANNEL

● Via the Marcopolo Satellite.
10.30am Snooker 12.30pm Texas Rodeo Championships 1.30 Racing Today 2.00 ATP Tennis 4.00 American Sports Cavalcade 5.00 American Wrestling 6.00 Sports Channel Special: ATP Tennis; FA Cup Football 10.00 Scottish Football Magazine 11.00 Racing Today 11.30 Sports Channel Special

THE POWER STATION

● Via the Marcopolo satellite.
7.00am Twenty-one hours of rock and pop

RADIO 1

FM Stereo and MW. 5.00am Jenny Costello 7.00 The Bruno and Liz Breakfast Show 10.00 Dave Lee Travis 1.00pm Adrian Juste 2.00 Classic Albums: Damn the Torpedoes, Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers. Tom Petty talks to Richard Skinner 3.00 The Saturday Sequence with Richard Skinner 7.00 The Saturday Rock Show with Alan Freeman 10.00 In Concert: The Farm, recorded at the Manchester International II in December 1990 11.00-2.00am John Peel

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. 4.00am Dave Bussey 6.00 Graham Knight: The Saturday Show 7.45-8.00 Take 2! with Chris Stuart (r) 8.05 Ronnie Hilton with Sounds of the Fifties 9.00 Brian Matthew with Sounds of the Sixties 10.00 Anne Robinson 12.00 Gerald Harper: Saturday Selection 1.30pm The News Huddlines (r) 2.00 Robin Ray on Record 3.00 Gerry Anderson 4.45 Dudley Savage at the Compton Organ in the St John Vianney Church, Claynall 5.00 Cinema 2 with Charles Nove 5.30 Music by . . . Bill Conti: Roy Pickard presents a weekly conversation with movie composers about their life and work 6.00 Bob Holness Requests the Pleasure . . . 7.00 Jazz Score Quiz chaired by Benny Green 7.30 Saturday Gala Night: BBC Concert Orchestra Tour of Germany 1990. Recorded in the Schloss Kiel, Kiel 9.00 Spectrum (r) 9.30 Easy Does It: BBC Big Band under Brian Fahey 10.00 The Radio 2 Arts Programme with Sheridan Morley 12.05am Cinema 2 (broadcast at 5.00pm) 12.30-4.00 Andrew Lane with Night Ride

RADIO 5

6.00am World Service: Newsdesk 6.30 Morning Edition, incl 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 news 7.05, 8.05, 9.00 Sport 9.02 On Your Marks, incl 10.00, 11.00 Sport 12.00 News; Sport on 4 Plus 1 (broadcast on Radio 4 at 9.05am) 12.30pm Sports Call: Phone-in quiz. Tel 0345 909 693 1.30 Sport on 5 with John Inverdale: Rugby Union Five Nations Championship: England v Scotland and Wales v Ireland; Football: FA Cup Fifth Round; Cricket 5.00 Sports Report 6.00 As Radio 4 10.00 Sport 10.15 As Radio 4 11.00 Sport 11.10 World Service: People and Politics 11.40 The International Money Programme 11.55 Words of Faith 12.00-12.10am News and Sport

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. 5.00am German Features 5.35 News in German, Headlines in English and French 5.47 Press Review 5.52 Financial News 5.56 Weather and Travel News 6.00 Newsdesk 6.30 Londres Matin 6.59 Weather 7.00 World News 7.15 24 Hours 8.00 World News 8.09 Words of Faith 8.15 A Jolly Good Show 9.00 World News 9.15 Here's Humph! 9.30 Financial News 9.39 Sports Roundup 9.45 Network UK 10.00 World News 10.15 Letter from America 10.30 People and Politics 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Mid Magazine 11.59 Travel News 12.00 World News 12.15pm Multitrack 3 12.45 Sports Roundup 1.00 World News 1.15 24 Hours 2.00 World News 2.15 Club 648 2.30 Sportsworld 3.00 World News 3.15 Sportsworld (cont) 4.00 World News 4.15 BBC English *4.30 News and Features in German 4.59 Travel News 5.00 News Summary 5.15 Sportsworld* Final Results 5.30 Londres Soir 6.14 News Headlines in English 6.15 BBC English 6.30 Heute Aktuell 7.54 News in German 8.00 World News 8.09 Society Today 8.25 Words of Faith 8.30 Meridian 9.00 World News 9.15 From Our Own Correspondent 9.45 Write On... 9.55 Sports Roundup 10.00 Newshour 11.00 World News 11.15 A Jolly Good Show 12.00 Newsdesk 12.30am The Ken Bruce Show 1.00 World News 1.05 Play of the Week: Macbeth 2.00 Newsdesk 2.30 Second Genesis: Life after Drugs 3.00 World News 3.15 Society Today 3.30 From Our Own Correspondent 3.50 Write On... 3.59 Weather 4.00 Newsdesk 4.30 Personal View 4.45 News and Press Review in German

ITV VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

As London except: 2.10pm The A-Team 3.05-4.45 Film: The True Story of Jesse James 10.50 Up The Junction 11.40 Film: The World is Full of Married Men 1.25am Hooperman 1.55 Pop Profile 2.05 The Hit *Man and Her 4.05 Indy Car World 5.05-5.30* Peppino

BORDER

As London except: 1.40pm The Silk Road *2.35-4.45 Rugby League — Live: Great* Britain v France 10.50 Film: The Laughing Policeman 12.55am Kojak 1.50 Paula Abdul 2.05 The Hit Man and Her 4.05 CinemAttractions 4.35 Comics — The Ninth Art 5.05-5.35 *America's Top Ten*

CENTRAL

As London except: 1.40pm Ski Tips 2.10 Out of Limits 2.15 The Spectacular World of Guinness Records 2.45-4.45 Film: Tiger Bay 10.50 Film: Beneath the Planet of the Apes 12.40am Hooperman Confidential 1.10 Film: The Man Who Haunted Himself 2.50 CinemAttractions 3.20 America's Top Ten 3.50 American College Football 4.45-5.30 Central Jobfinder '91

GRANADA

As London except: 1.40pm Matlock 2.35-4.45 Rugby League — Live. Great Britain v France 10.50 Film: The Laughing Policeman 12.55am Kojak 1.50 Paula Abdul 2.05 The Hit Man and Her 4.05 CinemAttractions 4.35 Comics — The Ninth Art 5.05-5.35 America's Top Ten

HTV WEST

As London except: 2.10pm The Young Riders 3.05-4.45 Film: Carry on Henry 10.50 Hardball 11.55 *Film: Incident in San* Francisco 1.50am Film: Come Club 3.10 New Music 4.05 Raw Power 5.05-5.30 Cover Story: Robert Palmer

SCOTTISH

As London except: 1.40pm Here Come the Double Deckers 2.05 This is America, Charlie Brown 2.35 Film: With Six You Get Egg Roll 4.20-4.45 The Spectacular World of *Guinness Records 10.50 Desperado* 12.50am Film: Scandal Sheet 2.40 The Grand Ole Opry 3.10 Film: Hour of Decision 4.40 Weir's Way 5.10-5.30 Jobfinder

TSW

As London except: 1.40pm The South West Week 2.10 Capsize 3.10-4.45 Film: Nefertiti, Queen of the Nile 10.50 Film: Every Which Way But Loose 12.55am Kojak *1.50 Paula Abdul 2.05 The Hit Man and Her* 4.05 CinemAttractions 4.35 Comics — The Ninth Art 5.05-5.30 America's Top Ten

TVS

As London except: 2.10pm Hard Time on Planet Earth 3.05-4.45 Film: The Love Lottery 10.50 Film: What's Up Tiger Lily? 12.30am Woody Allen: Mr Manhattan 1.30 America's Top Ten 2.00 CinemAttractions 2.30 American College Football 3.30 Adventure Bound 4.30 California Highway 5.00-5.30 Supercar

TYNE TEES

As London except: 2.10pm The A-Team 3.05-4.45 Film: Pearl of the South Pacific 10.50 Film: The Laughing Policeman 12.55am Kojak 1.50 Paula Abdul 2.05 The Hit Man and Her 4.05 CinemAttractions 4.35 *Comics — The Ninth Art 5.05-5.35 America's* Top Ten

ULSTER

As London except: 1.40pm Superstars of *Wrestling 2.40 Munsters Today 4.10-4.45* The Spectacular World of Guinness Records 10.50 Film: The Laughing Policeman 12.55am Kojak 1.50 In Profile 2.05 The Hit Man and Her 4.05 CinemAttractions 4.35 *Comic — The Ninth Art 5.05-5.30 America's* Top Ten

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 1.40pm The A-Team *2.35 The Spectacular World of Guinness* Records 3.00-4.45 Film: More Wild Wild West 10.50 Film: Harper 1.10am The Equalizer 2.05 The Hit Man and Her 4.05 Derrick 5.05-5.30 53 Degrees North 10 Degrees East

S4C

Starts: 6.00am The Art of Landscape 7.00 Transworld Sport 8.00 C4 Daily 9.15 Morning Line 9.25 Sing and Swing 9.30 *Listening Eye* 10.00 Cities By Class 10.30 The Secret Life of Machines 11.00 Travelog 11.30 Remote Control 12.00 Jonathan Ross 12.30 Sumo 1.00 The Last House in Bombay 2.00 Cymru v Iwerddon 4.05 Racing from *Newcastle and Leopardstown 5.05 Brook*side 6.30 Newyddion 6.45 Nos Sadwrn 7.45 C'mon Midffild 8.30 Y Maes Chwarae 9.40 Film: Songwriter 11.25 Stamp of Royalty 11.40 After Dark 1.40am Diwedd

RTE 1

Starts: 9.00am Scratch Saturday 1.00 CHiPS 1.50 News followed by Orphans of *the Wild 2.20 The Big Race:* Live from Leopardstown 4.30 Film: One Heavenly Night 6.00 The Angelus 6.01 News 6.15 Marbag 6.40 Talkabout 7.05 Star Trek: The Next Generation 8.00 Secrets 9.00 News *9.20 Dallas 10.15* Kenny Live 11.35 Rules of Engagement 12.30am News 12.35 Close

NETWORK 2

Starts: 12.30pm News 12.34 Sports Stadium 6.05 *Death Valley Days* 6.30 Sult Tsart 6.55 Nuacht 7.00 The Mind 8.00 News 8.05 North and South 9.50 First View, Chaero followed by Flesh Flesh 10.20 Film: Reflections in a Golden Eye (Marlon Brando, Elizabeth Taylor) 12.15am Close

RADIO 3

6.35am Open University (FM only)
6.55 Weather, News Headlines
7.00 Morning Concert. Charpentier (Incidental music from Circe: London Baroque under Charles Medlam), Marais (Chaconne in C: Purcell Quartet)
7.30 News
7.35 Morning Concert (cont): Ravel (Le Tombeau de Couperin: RPO under André Previn); Couperin (L'Apothéose de Corelli: William Christie, harpsichord, Christophe Rousset, harpsichord); Debussy (Jeux: Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra under Bernard Haitink)
8.30 News
8.35 Haydn and Schumann: Lindsay String Quartet performs Haydn (Quartet in G minor, Op 74 No 3, Rider); Schumann (Quartet in A, Op 41 No 3) (r)
9.30 Saturday Review, with Richard Osborne. New Releases Edition: From Sony Classical, Richard Wigmore reviews two sets for the Mozart year; Jeremy Summerly reviews records of medieval and Renaissance choral music; and a new set of Mussorgsky's Khovanshchina and the complete quartets of Shostakovich are reviewed by Stephen Walsh. 10.40 Record Release: Mozart (Symphony No 35 Haffner: Columbia SO under Bruno Walter); Victoria (Lamentations for Maundy Thursday: Choir of Trinity College, Cambridge, under Richard Marlow); Vivaldi (Concerto in C, RV 559, for two oboes, two clarinets and strings: King's Consort under Robert King); Shostakovich (String Quartet No 4, Brodsky Quartet). 11.58 Howard Shelley talks to Christopher Lambton about his piano-playing and recording. 12.24pm Rachmaninov (Piano Concerto No 4: SNO under Bryden Thomson, with Howard Shelley, piano)
12.55pm Words: Language of Science. The first of two reflections on the public understanding of science, by Professor John Durant (r)
1.00 News
1.05 Violin Sonatas: György Pauk, violin, Peter Frankl, piano, perform Mozart (Sonata in D, K 306); Beethoven (Sonata in G, Op 96)
2.05 Mahler (Symphony No 2 in C minor, The Resurrection: BBC Scottish SO under Leopold Hager, Edinburgh Festival Chorus under Arthur Oldham)
3.50 Tuning Up
● *CHOICE: If the musicians* Chris de Souza meets in this invigorating series cannot express themselves as well with words as they do with instruments, then all is lost. This is the basic premise behind *Tuning Up*, and thus far, *everything has gone* swimmingly. Today, de Souza *rewardingly hovers around the* violinist Tasmin Little as she prepares for her Wigmore Hall recital with the pianist Piers Lane, and the talk is of acoustics, apples, buying the right colour dress and striking the right programme balance; and should the piano lid be *fully or only partly open? If* only all "meet the musicians" programmes were as accessible and kaleidoscopic as this. The recital includes pieces by Brahms, Schubert and Respighi
5.00 Jazz Record Requests, with Charles Fox
5.45 Third Opinion, with Christopher Cook. Includes reviews of the Max Ernst exhibition at the Tate Gallery; the play *White Chameleon*, by Christopher Hampton, at the National Theatre and *The Miracle Game*, a novel by Josef Skvorecky
6.30 Dang Thai Son: The pianist plays Debussy (*Préludes Book* 1), Rachmaninov (Four pieces from Moments Musicaux, Op 16) (r)
7.30 La Wally: Vienna Volksoper Chorus, Sofia Chamber Chorus, Bregenz Festival Chorus, Vienna Symphony Orchestra under Pinchas *Steinberg perform Acts 1 and* 2 of Catalani's opera in four acts, to a libretto by Luigi Illica. With Mara Zampieri, soprano, as Wally. 8.40 Ivan Hewett examines the phenomenon of the operatic ending. 8.55 Acts 3 and 4
10.00 Issues (r)
10.25 *BBC PO under Odaline de la* Martinez performs Trevor Hold (Symphony, 1974). Robin Holloway (Seascape and Harvest)
11.25 Mozart (Quartet in C, K 465: Lindsay String Quartet) (r)
12.00 News 12.05am Close

RADIO 4

● FM: Most scheduled programmes *will be suspended to give* news of the Gulf war. The following schedule, on MW and LW, is subject to alteration:

5.55am Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Briefing, Weather 6.10 The Farming Week 6.50 Prayer for the Day 7.00 Today, incl 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 News 7.55, 8.58 Weather
9.00 News
9.05 Sport on 4, with Cliff Morgan. Includes an *interview with the* Princess Royal, the patron of 1991 Year of Sport
9.30 Breakaway: Ken Bruce with *travel and holiday news. Includes a visit to Washington,* DC, as the American capital celebrates its bicentenary
10.00 News; Loose Ends, with Ned Sherrin and guests
11.00 News; The Week in Westminster, with Michael White, political editor of the *Guardian*
11.30 From Our Own Correspondent
12.00 Money Box, with Louise Botting and Vincent Duggleby
12.25pm Just a Minute. Nicholas Parsons hosts the non-stop talking show 12.55 Weather
1.00 News
1.10 Any Questions? Jonathan Dimbleby is joined in Jersey by Chantal Cuer, Jack *Dromey, Harry Patterson* and Charles Moore (r) 1.55 Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; Any Answers? 071-580 4411. Listeners can call Jonathan Dimbleby with their views on the issues raised in *Any Questions?*
2.30 Saturday Playhouse: Market Forces. In *Christopher Denys's* comedy, three craftsmen enlist the help of Wally (Russell Dixon) to negotiate the minefields of income tax and VAT
3.45 Playback: Have a Go. Radio shows of the past (2 of 3) (r)
4.00 News; Going South: Two Pilgrims and a Cart. *In the first of three programmes,* Robert Weddle retraces the 1,000 mile walk from Chartres to Assisi which he made with fellow student Anthony Hatford *30 years ago* (r)
4.30 Science Now: Alun Lewis reports from the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science
5.00 God and Caesar: Mike Wooldridge talks to V P. Singh, the former prime minister of India, about the beliefs which have underpinned his political career (r)
5.25 Week Ending: A satirical review of the week's news (r) *5.50* Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather
6.00 News; Sports Round-Up
6.25 Citizens: Omnibus edition
7.10 Stop the Week
7.45 Classic Serial: The Forsyte Chronicles. Episode 21 of a 23-part dramatisation of John Galsworthy's saga, narrated by Dirk Bogarde
8.45 Kaleidoscope: Robin Hood Rides to the Bank. The legend of Robin Hood and his merry men has long been a favourite subject for film-makers. Brian Sibley explores *the continuing* popularity of the outlaws of Sherwood Forest
9.15 Music in Mind. Brian Kay with a selection of popular *melodies*
9.50 Ten to Ten, led by the Rev Stephen Oliver 9.59 Weather
10.00 News
10.15 Strange Stories: The Haunting of RF398. The first of two enquiries into the mystery surrounding the vintage 1945 Lincoln bomber now on display at Cosford Aerospace Museum in Shropshire
10.45 The Poetry of Popular Song: Mack Gordon — Stay as Sweet as You Are. The *second of four talks in which* Roy Dean considers the work of less well-known American lyric writers
11.00 Richard Baker Compares Notes with John Vallins, Michael Brewer and pupils of Chetham's School of Music in Manchester (r)
11.30 And Now, in Colour . . . The Grand Tour. Last in the series of songs and sketches from the comedy team
12.00-12.30am News, incl 12.20 Weather 12.33 Shipping Forecast

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m 1089kHz/275m, FM-97.6-99.8. Radio 2: FM-88-90.2. Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m, FM-90-92.4. Radio 4: 198kHz/1515m; FM-92.4-94.6. Radio 5: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. World Service: MW 648kHz/463m. Jazz FM 102.2. LBC: 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. Capital: 1548kHz/194m, FM 95.8. GLR: 1458kHz/206m, FM 94.9. Melody FM 104.9.

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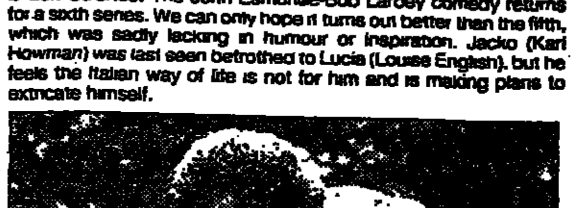
BBC 1

6.45 Open University
8.55 Playdays. For the young (r)
9.15 Come Holy Spirit. A new religious series exploring how the Holy Spirit works in individuals and communities
10.00 A Vous la France! French for beginners (r). Wales (to 12.30pm) See You Sunday 10.25 España Viva. An introduction to Spanish (r) 10.50 Step Up To Wordpower. More effective communication (Ceefax) 11.15 A Way With Numbers. A guide to practical maths
11.40 Bazaar. Nerys Hughes presents more economical ideas (r) 12.05 See Hear! Magazine for the hearing impaired
12.30 *Country File*. A report from the annual conference of the National Farmers' Union. Wales: Farming in Wales 12.55 Weather
1.00 News followed by On The Record. Should the West's attitude to President Gorbachev and the Soviet Union fundamentally change in the light of recent events? With former foreign secretaries Sir Geoffrey Howe and Dr David Owen
2.00 EastEnders. Omnibus edition (r). (Ceefax)
3.00 Match of the Day. Live coverage of Liverpool v Everton in the FA Cup fifth round, presented by Desmond Lynam and Jimmy Hill. Eight days after the teams met in the league, fate hands Everton a chance to avenge their 3-1 defeat at Anfield.
5.05 The Clothes Show. Winners of the shoe competition see their designs become creations and Ireland's best designers show their work in Belfast. Plus petite fashion, hairstyles for black hair and jewellery valuations
5.30 Antiques Roadshow from Salisbury. (Ceefax)
6.15 Lifeline. Joanna Lumley with an appeal on behalf of the National Playbus Association
6.25 News with Moira Stuart. Weather
6.40 Songs of Praise from St Marylebone, London. (Ceefax)
7.15 Brush Strokes. The John Esmonde-Bob Larbey comedy returns for a sixth series. We can only hope it turns out better than the fifth, which was sadly lacking in humour or inspiration. Jacko (Karl Howman) was last seen betrothed to Lucia (Louise English), but he feels the Italian way of life is not for him and is making plans to extricate himself.

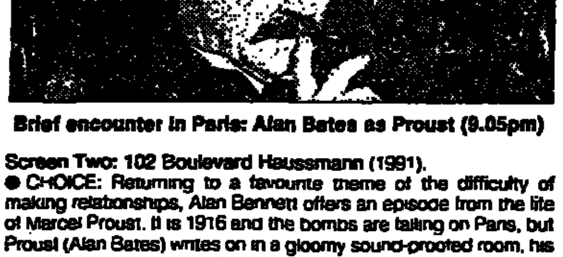


Drawing lots: Ian McShane and Edita Brychta (7.45pm)

7.45 Lovejoy: National Wealth. More delicious adventures in the antiques trade with shady dealer Lovejoy (Ian McShane). Called in by film star Madelaine Gilbert (Jean Kent) for his advice, Lovejoy teams up with Melanie Ford (Edita Brychta), a beautiful auctioneer, to help dispose of the lots. While Lovejoy tries to get more intimate with Melanie, a gang of art dealers is stealing from Madelaine's house. With Dudley Sutton and Ronald Fraser. (Ceefax)
8.35 Butterflies. Start of a re-run of Carla Lane's perceptive pre-*Bread* sitcom starring Wendy Craig as the free-spirited Ria. Geoffrey Palmer plays the solid and predictable husband, Ben, with Nicholas Lyndhurst and Andrew Hall as their sons. The household's fragile equilibrium is threatened when a tall, dark stranger walks into Ria's life (r). (Ceefax)
9.05 That's Life! More humour and heartache as told by the team, headed by Esther Rantzen. Plus the running gag of auditioning for the vacant presenter's post.
9.45 News with Michael Buerk. (Ceefax) Weather
10.00 Mastermind introduced by Magnus Magnusson from the debating chamber of the Oxford Union Society. The specialist subjects are Elizabethan theatre, Frederic Chopin, English royal palaces and François Truffaut
10.30 Everyman: An Act of Love. More than 300 people — the majority of them Afrikaners — have died since 1983 in family murders. The film explores the chilling phenomenon of killing one's entire family in order to get them to a better life in the next world.
11.10 The Days and Nights of Molly Dodd. American comedy drama series starring Blair Brown
11.35 Mosaic: Mind Your Language. A new six-part series aimed at establishing equal opportunities in a multi-cultural society. In the run-up to 1992 the programme investigates Britain's attitude to language learning and asks if we can continue to get away with being linguistically lazy.
12.05am The Sky at Night. Patrick Moore is joined by Professor Andrew Lynne of Jodrell Bank and together they examine pulsars
12.25 Mahabharat (r) 1.05 Weather

BBC 2

6.35 Open University
12.00 Regional Political Programmes. Wales: See Hear!; Northern Ireland: Situations Vacant
12.30 Scrutiny. Iain MacWhirter on the criticism levelled at Lord Young by the Trade and Industry Committee's report on the sale of Rover in 1988. (Ceefax)
1.00 The New Explorers. Nick Ross looks at technology's attempts to emulate the brain
1.25 Bowls. Coverage of the Midland Bank world indoor championships, with Dougie Donnelly.
3.00 Film: The Adventures of Quentin Durward (1955). Robert Taylor stars in this rousing swashbuckler set in 15th century Europe, loosely based on the novel by Sir Walter Scott. Directed by Richard Thorpe
4.40 Laurel and Hardy in *Scram* (1932, b/w)
5.00 Rugby Special. Highlights of yesterday's England v Scotland match at Twickenham and Wales v Ireland from Cardiff
6.00 The Clive James Interview. A new series for the wizard from Oz, today in conversation with actress and writer Carrie Fisher. Expect her to open her heart about her former drug problem, while promoting the film of her book, *Postcards from the Edge*.
6.35 The Money Programme: A Question of Profit. When companies with glowing accounts start going to the wall in droves, standards of financial accounting are called into question. Iain Carson reports on the difficulties faced by auditors in establishing the truth
7.15 The Natural World: Cranes of the Grey Wind.
● CHOICE: The tallest of birds and among the most graceful, cranes are the sort of subject that wildlife film-makers must drool over. For the American Tom Mangelsen, the birds have become a lifelong interest. The springs and the autumns of his boyhood were marked by the arrival of the cranes at their wetland stopover in the Platte river valley of Nebraska. As an adult he embarked on a 10-year study of the birds, the results of which are distilled in this film. It follows a circle of migration that starts and ends in Mexico, New Mexico and Texas and involves journeys of thousands of miles which take the birds by way of Nebraska to the Rockies and the tip of Alaska. He follows three species, the greater and lesser sandhills and the rare whooping cranes, on their transcontinental odyssey and charts the emergence of the next generation, from the first stirrings in the egg. (Ceefax)
8.05 Gardens of the Mind: Geoffrey Jellicoe, Landscape Artist. Sir Geoffrey Jellicoe has received much acclaim for designing royal gardens and landscaping factory sites and now, at 90, he faces his biggest challenge yet. The vast "Civilisations of Man" project in Galveston, Texas is an ambitious attempt to reconcile man with nature

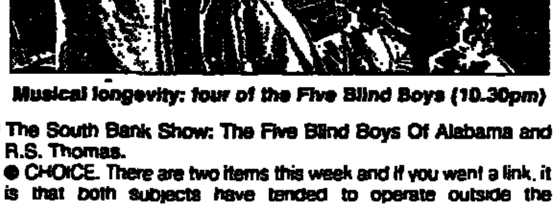


Brief encounter in Paris: Alan Bates as Proust (9.05pm)

9.05 Screen Two: 102 Boulevard Haussmann (1991).
● CHOICE: Returning to a favourite theme of the difficulty of making relationships, Alan Bennett offers an episode from the life of Marcel Proust. It is 1916 and the bombs are falling on Paris, but Proust (Alan Bates) writes on in a gloomy sound-proofed room, his needs and his hypochondria tended by a protective housekeeper (Janet McTeer). This equilibrium is disrupted when Proust makes a rare trip into the outside world to attend a concert and befriends a young viola player (Paul Rhys), who has been invalided home from the army. As might be expected from Bennett, the friendship is tentative, low-key and ultimately abortive, a brief encounter that serves to illuminate the personality of the central character while also exploring the nature of art and artistic creation. Bennett's writing is witty, economical and penetrating and the excellent cast is finely orchestrated by the director, Udayan Prasad. (Ceefax)
10.20 Film: The Last Tycoon (1976). Robert De Niro gives a subtle performance as Monroe Stahr, a Thirties Hollywood mogul, living out his fantasies on celluloid but unable to sustain happiness in real life. An all-star cast includes Tony Curtis, Jack Nicholson, Robert Mitchum, Jeanne Moreau and Theresa Russell. But it is a heavy-going version of F. Scott Fitzgerald's novel, despite a script by Harold Pinter. Directed by Elia Kazan. (Ceefax)
12.20am Snub. The cult music show with videos, interviews and studio performances by Young Disciples and Massive Attack (r)
12.50 Rapido. Cross-channel music show, featuring Sonic Youth, That Petrol Emotion and James (r) Ends at 1.25

ITV

6.00 TV-am 7.30 Frost on Sunday. The guests include a number of Kuwaitis with eye-witness accounts of the carnage in their country, and Dr David Owen. The newspapers are reviewed by Eve Pollard and Andreas Whittam Smith. With news and weather at 8.00 and 9.00
9.25 The Disney Club. With Andrea Boardman, John Eccleston and Gordon Inglis
10.45 Link. Kevin Mulhern talks to Sally Zinman, a former patient in a mental hospital, who now distrusts conventional treatment
11.00 *Morning Worship from Saltaire United Reform Church, west Yorkshire*
12.00 Encounter: Black Voices. A profile of a Birmingham-based, all-female black singing group
12.30 LWT News Weekend
1.00 News and weather
1.15 War in the Gulf. Presented by Brian Walden and Donald MacCormick.
2.00 Film: Mr Hobbs Takes a Vacation (1962). James Stewart, Maureen O'Hara and John Saxon star in a feeble comedy about a family taking a holiday in a dilapidated beach house. Directed by Henry Koster
4.20 Cartoon Time
4.30 Bullseye. Jim Bowen hosts the darts and general knowledge quiz
5.00 International Athletics: Dairy Crest Games. Jim Rosenthal presents the action from RAF Cosford. Among those due to take part are the American sprinters Leroy Burrell and Michael Johnson and Britain's Linford Christie
6.30 News and weather 6.35 LWT News and weather
6.40 Highway. Sir Harry Secombe visits scenic Suffolk, where he samples Tudor life at Kentwell Hall in Long Melford, admires the magnificent churches of the old wool towns of Hadleigh and Lavenham and visits Sudbury's silk mill.
7.15 Murder She Wrote: *Fixer Upper*. Angela Lansbury as the crime writer who spends more time solving murders than she does writing books (Oracle)
8.05 You've Been Framed! Domestic accidents captured on video and aired for the nation by Jeremy Beadle
8.35 News and weather 8.55 LWT Weather
9.00 Agatha Christie's Poirot: The Mystery of the Spanish Chest. More stylish sleuthing from the Art Deco Thirties (Oracle)
10.00 Cool Head. First of a new series in which rubber-faced impressionist Phil Cool conjures up a host of characters, including the Pope, Gene Pitney and David Attenborough

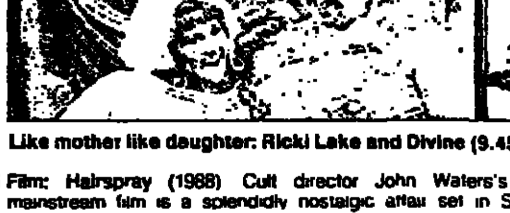


Musical longevity: four of the Five Blind Boys (10.30pm)

10.30 The South Bank Show: The Five Blind Boys Of Alabama and R.S. Thomas.
● CHOICE. There are two items this week and if you want a link, it is that both subjects have tended to operate outside the mainstream of their societies. In the case of the Five Blind Boys, a gospel group from Alabama, the segregation stems partly from their physical handicap but also from being born black in the racialist Deep South. Tony Knox's film is a celebration of their music and also of their longevity, with four of the five still performing after almost half a century. The other film features a rare television appearance by the 78-year-old Welsh writer, R. S. Thomas. His isolation is willingly self-inflicted, stemming from a desire to be close to nature, in his case the wild scenery of north Wales. Landscape, Welshness and the search for God are the main concerns of his life and work. Better at images than ideas, television finds it easy to evoke the first but has to rely on Thomas's verse for the second and the third.
11.30 Film: Otley (1968) Lumbering spy spoof about a petty thief who wakes up with a hangover to find his host has been murdered and becomes involved in a deadly game of espionage with a beautiful secret agent. Starring Tom Courtenay and Romy Schneider. Directed by Dick Clement
1.20 The ITV Chart Show (r)
2.20 New Music. Celebrity and pop video show
3.20 Indy Car Racing. More open-chassis car racing from the US
4.20 Pick of the Week. The best from the week's regional television
4.50 Backstage. More peeks behind the scenes in the film industry
5.00 Wanted: Dead or Alive (b/w) Maverick bounty hunter Josh Randall (Steve McQueen) embarks upon more adventures
5.30 ITN Morning News. Ends at 6.00

CHANNEL 4

6.00 The Channel Four Daily with the latest news from the war zone
7.00 The Complete Skier 7.30 Dr Snuggles. Cartoon series 8.00 The Bluffers 8.30 Bobobobs. Animation 9.00 Early Bird. Informative and entertaining programme made by children for children
9.25 Sangeet Anjali. Series focusing on Bengali music
10.00 A Week In Politics — Second Reading. Includes a discussion on patriotism between Enoch Powell, Jonathan Aitken, Tony Benn and David Starkey
10.45 Dennis. Cartoon adventures of a mischievous young boy 11.00 *Boom! A visit to Whipsnade Wild Animal Park (r) 11.30 Star Test*
12.00 The Waltons 1.00 Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea (b/w) Cult series about the Seaview, an underwater craft
2.00 Film: The Return of Frank James (1940) Solid sequel to *Jesse James*, shown last Sunday on this channel, telling the story of Frank James's attempts to avenge the murder of his brother. Stars Henry Fonda and Gene Tierney. Directed by Fritz Lang
3.45 Film: The Pilgrim (1922, b/w) Sentimental Charlie Chaplin short in which he plays an escaped convict. To prevent himself from being re-captured, he changes his prison uniform for that of a minister and carries out good deeds. Directed by Charlie Chaplin
4.30 A Hundred Acres: July. Last programme in the re-edited series taking a look at wildlife throughout the changing climates of six consecutive months (r)
5.00 Scottish Eye: Victims of the Village.
● CHOICE. A perturbing report on child abuse in rural Scotland reveals the difficulty for the victims of speaking out in small closed communities where everyone's business is everyone else's. Rather than bring shame on their families, women raped as young girls have grown up and suffered in silence. Several now speak out for this film, although identities are carefully hidden. One of them says "I didn't want Dad to go to prison and I kept my mouth shut to keep the family together." The problem is compounded by social deprivation — a quarter of rural households live below the poverty line — and physical isolation. To get help may mean calling a town 40 miles away. The film also points to the high incidence of abuse in religious families and voices criticism of a Scottish legal system which holds that incest is committed by both parties
5.30 Karsplatt. Continuing the off-beat look at the world of comics
5.45 Grim Tales. Rik Mayall narrates the story of *The Gnome*
6.00 Press Gang. Series following the trials and tribulations of a group of young people running their own newspaper (r) (Teletext)
6.30 The Wonder Years. Emmy award-winning comedy about what it was like to be an adolescent in the Sixties
7.00 Channel 4 News and weather
8.00 Orchestra! Dudley Moore and Georg Solti continue this introduction to the orchestra by taking a look at the piano
8.30 The New Age. Kay Avila explores the common ground between Western forms of psychotherapy and Eastern meditative techniques
9.00 The Media Show examines issues raised by the media's coverage of the Gulf war



Like mother like daughter: Ricki Lake and Divine (9.45pm)

9.45 Film: Hairspray (1988) Cult director John Waters's first mainstream film is a splendidly nostalgic affair set in Sixties Baltimore. The late, great Divine makes his last cinematic appearance as the mother of an overweight teenager (Ricki Lake) who wins a place on a local television dance show and starts to gain some local fame. Waters gleefully sends up the teen "make out" movies of the era, as well as the message pictures of the Fifties and Sixties, through Lake's attempts to bring an end to racial discrimination at the television studio. Gloriously tacky, the film also benefits from the off-beat casting which includes Debbie Harry as the mother of Lake's rival and a surprisingly good Pia Zadora as a beatnik chick
11.30 Hello, Do You Hear Us? Through the stories of three Soviet people, Latvian director Yuris Podnieks highlights the invisible wall of bureaucracy that threatens the success of perestroika
12.35am Film. La Ronde (1950, b/w) Anton Walbrook, Simone Signoret and Serge Reggiani star in one of the cinema's most stylish and subtle films. Ten episodes linked by a puppet master/narrator (Walbrook) tell the story of a sexual merry-go-round in 19th century Vienna in which one partner is always the connecting link to the next story. Directed by Max Ophuls. Ends at 2.15

ITV VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Farming Diary 2.00 Members Only 2.25 Golf 2.55-4.30 Film: Escape to Burma 11.35 The New Avengers 12.35am Soap 1.05 CinemAttractions 1.35 Film: The Man in the Trunk 3.30 Transmission 4.30-5.30 Silk Road

BORDER

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Gardening Time 2.00 Film: Sheena — Queen of the Jungle 4.00-5.00 Scotsport 11.35 Prisoner: Cell Block H 12.30am Quiz Night 1.00 I Spy 2.00 Stand Up 2.30 Film: Florian 4.15 The ITV Chart Show 5.05-5.30 Jobfinder

CENTRAL

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Gardening Time 11.35 Prisoner: Cell Block H 12.30am Santa Barbara 1.20 Comics — The Ninth Art 1.50 The ITV Chart Show 2.55 The Story of Steam 3.50-5.30 Jobfinder

GRANADA

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Close to the Edge 2.00 Richmond Hill 2.55 Film: Strangers' Meeting 4.05-5.00 Coronation Street 11.35 Prisoner: Cell Block H 12.30 Quiz Night 1.00 I Spy 2.00 Stand Up 2.30 Film: Florian 4.15 The ITV Chart Show 5.05-5.30 Jobfinder

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Clive's Walks 2.00 HTV Newsweek 2.30 Here Come the Double Deckers 2.55-4.30 Film: Son of Robin Hood 11.35 Prisoner: Cell Block H 12.30am The ITV Chart Show 1.30 Festivals of the World 2.25 The US Pro Surfing Tour 3.20 The Hit Man and Her 4.20 Hide? on TV? 4.50-5.30 Jobfinder

HTV WALES

As HTV West except: 12.30pm-12.55 Jimmy's 2.00-2.30 Farming Wales

TSW

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Farming News 2.00 Off the Hook 2.30 Coronation Street 3.25 The A-Team 4.30-5.00 The Piglet Files 11.35 In the Heat of the Night 12.30 Quiz Night 1.00 I Spy 2.00 Stand Up 2.30 Film: Florian 4.15 The ITV Chart Show 5.05-5.30 TSW Jobfinder

TVS

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 TVS News followed by Agenda 2.00 Against All Odds 2.30-4.30 Film: Knock on Wood 11.30 The Human Factor 12.00 The New Avengers 1.00am The ITV Chart Show 2.00 Music Box Special 2.30 The Twilight Zone 3.00 Books By My Bedside 3.30 Pick of the Week 4.00 The Hit Man and Her 5.00-5.30 A Taste of the South

TYNE TEES

As London except: 12.25pm-1.00 Break-

HTV WEST

throughs 2.00 Highway to Heaven 3.00 The Back Page 3.30 Bullseye 4.05-5.00 Coronation Street 11.35 Prisoner: Cell Block H 12.30 Quiz Night 1.00 I Spy 2.00 Stand Up 2.30 Film: Florian 4.15 The ITV Chart Show 5.05-5.30 Jobfinder

ULSTER

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Gardening Time 2.00 Film: Hockey Night 3.35 The Galway International Rally 4.05-5.00 Coronation Street 11.35 Prisoner: Cell Block H 12.30 Quiz Night 1.00 I Spy 2.00 Stand Up 2.30 Film: Florian 4.15 The ITV Chart Show 5.05-5.30 Jobfinder

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 12.25pm Goals on Sunday 12.50-1.00 Calendar News 2.00 Grizzly Adams 2.55-5.00 Film: Scott of the Antarctic 11.35 Scrumdown 12.35am Hooperman 1.05 Pick of the Week 1.35 Invisible Man 2.05 The ITV Chart Show 3.05 The Look in the Mirror 4.05 Some Call It Jazz 4.35-5.30 Jobs

S4C

Starts: 6.00am Early Morning 9.25 The Adventures of TinTin 9.30 Boom! 10.00 A Week in Politics 10.45 Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea 11.45 Karsplatt 12.00 The Waltons 12.55 Now You're Talking 1.20 O Bedwar Ban 1.30 Bwrw Mlaen 2.00 Equinox 3.00 Cutting Edge 4.00 Film: Pick a Star* 5.20 Hang Up 5.35 Branson — Across a Fiery Sky 6.35 Grim Tales 6.50 San Steffan 7.00 Newyddion 7.15 Hapus Dyrfa 7.45 Hel Straeon 8.15 Dechrau Canu, Dechrau Canmol 8.45 Mwy Na Phapur Newydd 9.30 Fifteau 10.00 Small Stages 11.30 The Media Show 12.15 Away for the Day 12.35 Film: La Ronde* 2.15 Diwedd

RTE 1

Starts: 10.25am Topics in the History of Mathematics 10.50 Discovering Portuguese 11.15 Sunday Mass 12.00 France Actuelle 12.25 Russian Language and People 12.50 Marketplace 1.20 Little House on the Prairie 2.10 News followed by Bookline 2.45 Stan Laurel 2.55 Addie and the King of Hearts 3.50 Film: No Minor Vices 5.30 Exploring the Celtic Lands 6.00 Angelus 6.01 Six One Sunday 6.30 Scaoil Amach An Bobailín 7.00 The Cosby Show 7.30 School Around the Corner 8.00 Where in the World 8.30 Glenroe 9.00 News 9.20 Sandy 10.15 Ashes to Ashes 10.45 Stay Lucky 11.40 News 11.45 Close

NETWORK 2

Starts: 9.45am Sesame Street 10.45 The Chitty Kids 11.05 Ulysses 11.30 The Beatbox 1.30 Head to Toe 2.00 Russian Circus 2.30 Festival: The Master Builder 4.50 Masterworks 5.05 Mozart Gala 6.00 Pilgrim into Hell 6.55 Nuacht 7.00 Fax City 7.55 News 8.00 Dennis O'Neill 8.55 Blue Grass 10.35 Sports Special 11.20 Close

RADIO 3

6.35-6.55am Open University (FM only)
6.55 Weather
7.00 Morning Concert: Boccherini (Cello Concerto in D: Tafelmusik), Corelli (Violin Sonata in E, Op 5 No 11: Trio Sonnerie)
7.30 News
7.35 Morning Concert (cont): Telemann (Concerto in G for four violins: Concentus Musicus, Vienna), Respighi (Ancient Airs and Dances, Suite I: Boston SO); Schubert (Symphony No 1 in D: Hanover Band)
8.30 News
8.35 Music from the Dresden Court: The third of six programmes. Zelenka (Hipocondrie: Concentus Musicus, Vienna, under Harnoncourt), Hasse (Cantata, Quel vago seno, O fille Philomel, with Julianne Baird, soprano); J.D. Heinichen (Concerto in C for four recorders and strings: Concerto Cologne under Ehrhardt)
9.15 Isaac Stern and Friends: The third of six programmes. Beethoven (Sonata in A, Op 30 No 1: Isaac Stern, violin, Eugene Istomin, piano); Tchaikovsky (Violin Concerto in D: Isaac Stern, Philadelphia Orchestra under Hilsberg)
10.15 Music Weekly. From Dublin
11.00 From the Proms 1990: Swedish RSO under Salonen, with Heinrich Schiff, cello, performs Ravel (Valses nobles et sentimentales); Shostakovich (Cello Concerto No 1); Jan Sandström (Indri); Nielsen (Symphony No 3, Sinfonia espansiva), incl 11.50 Interval Reading
12.55pm Replay. From the BBC sound archives. Vita Sackville-West remembers Knole. First broadcast in 1952
1.00 News
1.05 Your Concert Choice, with Paul Gunery. Schubert (Rondo in A, D 438: ECO under Tate, with Nigel Kennedy, violin), Chopin (Polonaise in B flat, Op 71 No 2: Vladimir Ashkenazy, piano); Backofen (Concertante, Op 7: Ursula Holliger, harp, Hans Rudolph Stalder, basset-horn, Andreas Schmid, cello), Pleyel (Concerto for piano, violin and strings: Westphalia SO under Landau); Canteloube (Triptyque: RPO under Antonio de Almeida)
2.30 Chamber Music from Birmingham: Lowri Blake, cello, Caroline Palmer, piano, perform Fauré (Cello Sonata No 2 in G minor, Op 117); Debussy (Cello Sonata in D minor), Saint-Saëns (Romance in D, Op 51, Cello Sonata No 2 in F, Op 123), incl 3.05 Interval Reading
3.55 BBC PO under Rudolf Barshai performs Mozart (Overture, The Marriage of Figaro); R. Strauss (Symphonic poem, Till Eulenspiegel), Beethoven (Symphony No 2 in D)
5.00 Listening to . . . Varèse: An examination by Michael Hall
6.00 A Lenten Sequence: Performed by the choir of the 1990 Eton Choral Course under Paul Spicer
7.00 Grand Concertos: Corelli (Concerto Grosso in F, Op 6 No 6: Liszt Ferenc CO under Rolla); Handel (Concerto Grosso in B flat, Op 6 No 7: ECO under Leppard)
7.30 *Critics' Choice*. Good
● CHOICE. C.P. Taylor's chilling play shows what can happen both to an individual soul and the composite soul of a nation when moral truth is respected only in the abstract and when even words such as good and bad lose their meaning. Taylor took the Third Reich as his paradigm, fine-focusing on an academic (Tom Watson tonight plays the role created by Alan Howard in the 1981 RSC production), whose grip on reality, always tenuous, slackens to the point where his conscience can justify even the horror of Auschwitz. Don't, repeat don't, expect comfortable Sunday night entertainment if you decide to listen to *Good*
9.30 Elliott Carter Festival: London Sinfonietta under Oliver Knussen performs Simon Holt (Syrensong), Carter (Violin Concerto — UK premiere: Ole Bohn, violin), Stravinsky (Variations, Aldous Huxley in Memoriam), Carter (Concerto for orchestra)
11.05 York Early Music Festival: Maggie Cole, harpsichord, plays D'Anglebert (Suite in G); Forqueray (La Sylva, La Mandoline), F. Couperin (Ordre No 26 in F sharp minor; La Sophie: L'Epineuse, La Pantomime); L. Couperin (Passacaille in C)
12.00 News 12.05am Close

RADIO 4

● FM. Most scheduled programmes will be suspended to give news of the Gulf war. The following schedule, on MW and LW, is subject to alteration:

5.55am Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Briefing, Weather 6.10 Prelude 6.55 Weather
7.00 News 7.10 Sunday Papers 7.15 On Your Farm: Robert Forster talks to farmer-cum-butcher Edward Tebbett 7.40 Sunday, incl 7.55 Weather
8.00 News 8.10 Sunday Papers 8.50 Paul Boateng, MP, appeals on behalf of the Africa Centre 8.55 Weather
9.00 News
9.10 Sunday Papers
9.15 Letter from America by Alistair Cooke (r)
9.30 Morning Service from Hayward's Heath Methodist Church
10.15 The Archers: Omnibus edition
11.15 News Stand. Andrew Rawnsley reviews the periodicals
11.30 Pick of the Week, with Margaret Howard (r)
12.15pm Desert Island Discs: Sue Lawley's castaway is Dame Ninette de Valois, founder of the Royal Ballet 12.55 Weather
1.00 The World This Weekend, with Nick Clarke 1.55 Shipping Forecast
2.00 Gardeners' Question Time: Members of the Acton Chrysanthemum, Dahlia and Floral Art Society in west London put their queries to Dr Stefan Buczacki, Fred Downham and Sue Phillips. With Clay Jones in the chair
2.30 Talking Heads: Bed Among the Lentils. The second of Alan Bennett's six monologues. Anna Massey plays a vicar's wife, struggling with various devils, including the demon drink
3.00 Touching Wood: Julian Rosch talks to four artists who work with wood (r)
3.30 The Radio Programme, with Laurie Taylor
4.00 News: Analysis. Trading Partners. Roland Dallas looks at the future prospects for world trade (r)
4.47 Time for Verse. Carol Ann Duffy visits the Aldeburgh Poetry Festival
5.00 News: Down Your Way. Bob Wilson, the former Arsenal goalkeeper turned sports journalist, returns to Highbury
5.40 Beaten Tracks: Drovers' Roads. Roger Worsley explores the third of four ancient highways (r) 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather
6.00 News
6.15 Feedback: Chris Dunkley airs listeners' comments about BBC programmes and policy (r)
6.30 The Very Strange Tale of Hoffman. Christopher Cook's celebration of the life and times of Ernst Theodor Amadeus Hoffman, the 18th century German romantic musician, lawyer, critic and the teller of fantastic tales. With Ioan Meredith
7.30 Bookshelf (r)
8.00 The Radio 4 Debates: The Health Service. Brian Redhead chairs a debate from the Royal London Hospital, Whitechapel, on the motion: "The government's reforms are damaging the National Health Service"
9.00 Enquire Within, with Dilly Barlow (r)
9.15 The Natural History Programme (r) 9.59 Weather
10.00 News
10.15 As Flexible as India Rubber: Dr James Munson, the Oxford historian, examines the meaning of the phrase "the nonconformist conscience" in the context of the often fraught relationship between politics and Christianity in Britain
11.00 In Committee: Patrick Bartlett examines the work of Parliament's select committees
11.30 Seeds of Faith: Miriam, Sister of Moses and Aaron. Using excerpts from his Miriam String Quartet, the composer Francis Grier reflects on the first of seven stories of women in the Bible
12.00-12.30am News incl 12.20 Weather 12.33 Shipping Forecast

FREQUENCIES Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m 1089kHz/275m;FM-97.6-99.8. Radio 2: FM-88-90.2. Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m, FM-90-92.4. Radio 4: 198kHz/1515m;FM-92.4-94.6. Radio 5: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. World Service: MW 648kHz/463m. Jazz FM 102.2. LBC: 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. Capital: 1548kHz/194m, FM 95.8. GLR: 1458kHz/206m, FM 94.9, Melody FM 104.9.

SATELLITE

SKY ONE

● Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites. 6.00am Bailey's Bird 6.30 Barrier Reef 7.00 Fun Factory 11.00 Eight is Enough 12.00 That's Incredible 1.00pm Wonder Woman 2.00 WWF Superstars of Wrestling 3.00 The Man from Atlantis 4.00 The Love Boat 5.00 Small Wonder 5.30 Sky Star Search 6.30 The Simpsons 7.00 21 Jump Street 8.00 Return to Eden. The first of a three-part mini series *10.00 Falcon Crest 11.00 Entertain*ment Tonight 12.00 Pages from Skytext

SKY NEWS

● Via the Astra satellite.
News on the hour
5.30am Target 6.30 The Reporters 9.30 International Business Report Week 10.30 Those Were the Days 11.30 The Lords 12.30pm Target 1.30 The Reporters 2.30 Our World 3.30 The Lords 4.30 Target 5.00 Live at Five 6.30 The Reporters 7.30 Those Were the Days 8.30 Target 10.30 Those Were the Days 11.30 The Reporters 12.30am Our World 1.30 Target 2.30 International Business Report Week 3.30 Target 4.30 Beyond 2000

SKY NEWS

● Via the Marcopolo satellite.
News on the hour
5.30am Target 6.30 The Reporters 9.30 International Business Report Week 10.30 Those Were the Days 11.30 The Lords 12.30pm Target 1.30 The Reporters 2.00 Bach: The Dolmetsch Years 5.00 The Story of Fashion — Part Three 7.30 Opera: Verdi's Macbeth 10.30 Recital by Bunin 11.30 The Reporters 12.30am Our World 1.30 Target 2.30 International Business Report Week 3.30 Target 4.30 Beyond 2000

SKY MOVIES

● Via the Astra satellite.
6.00am Showcase
8.00 Big Business (1988) Comedy starring Bette Midler and Lily Tomlin as two pairs of identical twin sisters
10.00 Adventures in Babysitting (1987): Elisabeth Shue and her charges are plunged into a series of misadventures
11.45 The King and I (1956) Deborah Kerr and Yul Brynner star in this Oscar-winning adaptation of Rodgers and Hammerstein's Broadway musical about a widowed teacher whose pupils are the King of Siam's children
2.00pm Switching Channels (1988) Newsreader Kathleen Turner wants to quit her job and marry Christopher Reeve. Her producer and ex-husband Burt Reynolds has other ideas
4.00 Ghost Chase (1988) A teenage film-maker and a ghost team up to bring down a corrupt Hollywood mogul
6.00 The House on Carroll Street (1988) Kelly McGillis and Jeff Daniels star in this romantic thriller set in the McCarthy era
7.40 Projector
8.00 Running on Empty (1989) Following their radical political activities in the Sixties, Christine Lahti and Judd Hirsch struggle to *keep their family together while on the run*
10.00 Dracula's Widow (1987). Starring Sylvia Kristel
11.25 Blades (1988) A golf course is menaced by a killer lawn mower
1.10am The Mephisto Waltz (1971) Alan Alda's journalist falls prey to a Satanic cult after meeting a dying concert pianist (Curt Jurgens)
3.00 Brimstone and Treacle (1982) Sting stars in this unsettling drama by Dennis Potter about a man who insinuates himself into the lives of a middle-aged couple
4.25 One Down, Two to Go (1983) A karate promoter attempts to expose the corruption behind the sport. Ends at 5.50

EUROSPORT

● Via the Astra satellite.
6.00am Hour of Power 7.00 Fun Factory 9.00 Sunday Alive: Nordic World Championship Skiing. European Cup Basketball. Transworld Sport. World Championship Bobsleigh. Boxing. BOC Round the World Race. Nordic Skiing Highlights 5.30pm Motorsport 6.30 Fuji Cup Tennis 8.00 Trampolining World Championships 8.30 Football Documentary: The Game of Billions — Part Three 9.30 Bobsleigh World Championships 10.00 Nordic World Championships 11.00 Oslo Open Tennis

SCREENSPORT

● Via the Astra satellite.
8.00am ATP Volvo Tennis Indoor — Men 10.00 International Ice Hockey: Sweden 12.00 Stop-USWA Wrestling 1.00pm Powersports International 2.00 Pro Box 4.00 Ice Racing: Individual World Cup Qualifier 5.00 Weekend Live: Nascar Daytona 500 8.45 Weekend Live: Athletics IAAF 9.45 Ten Pin Bowling 11.00 Go 12.00 Sport en France

MTV

● Via the Astra satellite.
Twenty-four hours of rock and pop

RADIO 1

FM Stereo and MW 5.00am Jenny Costello 7.00 The Bruno and Liz Breakfast Show 9.30 Dave Lee Travis 12.30pm Pick of the Pops: The Top 20 charts of 1963, 1971 and 1984 2.30 Phillip Schofield 4.30 The Complete UK Top 40 7.00 Nicky Campbell 7.45 Eric Clapton. Live from the Albert Hall 10.30 Nicky Campbell 11.0-2.00am John Peel

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. 4.00am David Allen 6.00 Graham Knight 7.30 Don Maclean says Good Morning Sunday 9.05 Richard Baker with Melodies for You 11.00 Desmond Carrington: Radio 2 All-Time Greats 2.00pm Benny Green 3.00 Alan Dell with Sounds Easy 4.00 Palm Court Time 4.30 Sing Something Simple 5.00 Charlie Chester Sunday Soapbox 7.00 John Lawrenson (new series) presents items from his musical collection 8.00 London Winds (new series) First of four programmes 8.30 Sunday Half Hour 9.00 Alan Keith with Your Hundred Best Tunes 10.0 Radio 2 Arts Programme 12.05am Rosalind Runcie presents Your Hundred Best Tunes 1.00-4.00am Andrew Lane with Night Ride

RADIO 5

6.00am World Service: Newsdesk 6.30 Meridian Reports 7.00 News and 24 Hours 7.30 Sunday Edition, incl 7.30 News 8.00 News and Sport 8.30 News 9.00 Sport 9.02 The Family Business, incl 10.00 Sport 10.30 Education Matters 11.00 A Century Remembered 1900-1910 (1 of 5) (r) 11.30 Labour of Love (r) 12.00 Sport 12.02pm Open University: Open Forum 12.22 Mathematics — Foundation Course 12.41 Education Bulletin 1.00 Sunday Sport Extra: Football — FA Cup fifth round 5.00 Open University: Literature in the Modern World 5.22 Arts Foundation Course 5.41 Into the Open 6.00 Sports Round-up 6.10 Bob Hatton Rattle 6.40 Euromix (r) 7.20 Open University: Arts Foundation Course 7.40 Technology — Material Issues 8.00 Mathematics Miscellany 8.20 Arts Review 8.40 The Enlightenment 9.00 Nightbeat 9.30 Across the Line, incl 10.00 Sport 11.00 Sport 11.05 World Service: World Report 11.20 Having a Bath 11.50 They Made Our World 12.00-12.05am Sport

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. 5.00am German Features 5.35 News in German. Headlines in English and French 5.47 Press Review 5.52 Financial News 5.58 Weather and Travel News 6.00 Newsdesk 6.30 Londres Matin 7.00 News 7.15 24 Hours 8.00 News 8.09 Words of Faith 8.15 Music for a While 9.00 News 9.15 Backing the Canvas: The Auctioneer 9.30 Financial Review 9.40 Book Choice 9.45 Society Today 10.00 News 10.15 Science in Action 10.30 In Praise of God 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Mid Magazine 12.00 News 12.06pm Play of the Week: Macbeth 1.00 News 1.15 24 Hours 2.00 News 2.15 Sports Roundup 2.30 Anything Goes 3.00 News 3.15 International Recital 4.00 News 4.15 BBC English 4.30 News and Features in German 5.00 News 5.15 Club 648 5.30 Londres Soir 6.15 BBC English 6.30 News and Features in German 7.54 News in German 8.00 Eric Clapton — Live in Concert 9.00 News 9.15 What Do Jews Believe? 9.45 Sports Roundup 10.00 Newshour 11.00 News 11.15 Music for a While 12.00 Newsdesk 12.30am In Praise of God 1.00 News 1.15 Tongue of Tongues 2.00 Newsdesk 2.30 Composers of the Month: Brahms 3.00 News 3.15 Good Books 3.30 Anything Goes 4.00 Newsdesk 4.30 Letter from America 4.45 News and Press Review in German

COMPILED BY PETER DEAR AND GILLIAN MAXEY
TV CHOICE PETER WAYMARK/RADIO CHOICE PETER DAVALLE

LIFESTYLE

● Via the Astra satellite.
12.00 Johnny Ringo 12.30pm The Bill Dana Show 1.00 The Joan Rivers Show 1.50 He Shoots! He Scores 2.45 Spain Spain International Cuisine 3.00 World Class Championship Wrestling 4.00 Rocky Jones 4.25 Film: The Black Book 6.00 The Sell-a-Vision Shopping Channel 8.00 Close 10.00 The Sell-a-Vision Shopping Channel

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

● Via the Marcopolo satellite.
12.30pm Champagne Charlie (1944, b/w) Tommy Trinder stars in the life story of one of the greats of the Victorian music hall
2.25 The Girl in Room 17 (1953) Gritty police drama starring Edward G. Robinson
4.00 Batteries Not Included (1987) Extra-terrestrials help the tenants of an inner city tenement. Starring Jessica Tandy
6.00 Vice Versa (1988) A father and son fall under the influence of a magical skull and swap bodies. Starring Judge Reinhold
8.00 The Seventh Sign (1988) Only one woman can stop the Apocalypse
10.00 The Rachel Papers (1989) A young man's spirits are revived by memories of a former lover. Starring Dexter Fletcher
11.40 Distant Thunder (1988) John Lithgow stars in the tale of a Vietnam veteran trying to rejoin mainstream society
1.35am Cross My Heart (1987). Martin Short stars in this wry observation of Eighties sexual mores. Ends at 3.05

THE SPORTS CHANNEL

● Via the Marcopolo Satellite.
10.30am Scottish Football Magazine 11.30 Football: FA Cup 1.30pm Sports Channel Special: Italian Football; ATP Tennis 6.00 FA Cup Football 6.15 British Rugby League: St Helens v Hull 8.15 FA Cup Football 10.15 Scottish Football Magazine 11.15 FA Cup Football

THE POWER STATION

● Via the Marcopolo satellite.
8.00am Twenty hours of rock and pop

We can count on his courage.

Every lifeboatman is prepared to put to sea, whatever the conditions, to save lives.

Every rescue requires teamwork and selflessness – not to mention courage.

But to get lifeboatmen out there in the first place requires money.

Currently we need £100,000 a day to run the service and protect the men who give their services free.

You can become a member for as little as £6, yet that £6 means a lot to us.

Because we rely totally on voluntary contributions and membership fees. Every donation is vital. And you know it'll be well spent.

Can we count on your £6?

To: The Director, R.N.L.I., West Quay Road, Poole, Dorset BH15 1HZ.
I wish to join the R.N.L.I. My first annual donation is:
£______ for Shoreline membership (min £6 p.a.)
£______ for Joint Shoreline membership (Husband & Wife – min £9 p.a.)
£______ for a Governor (min £20 p.a.)
£______ for a life Governor (once only payment – £200)
I do not wish to join the R.N.L.I. but I enclose a gift of £______
Name______
Address______
Postcode______

Royal National Lifeboat Institution TT1/2

BR chief calls for enquiry into railway snow failures

By David Young

A FULL investigation into British Rail's poor performance during the severe weather has been ordered by Sir Bob Reid, its chairman, who apologised yesterday to passengers who have had to put up with cancelled services and over-crowded and late-running trains.

He admitted that BR's service had been poor and promised a full investigation. "It has been a hard week for British Rail, but an even harder week for many of our customers; that I very much regret," he said in York.

Sir Robert praised the performance of staff who kept some trains moving, but he acknowledged: "We have not provided many of our commuters, in particular, with an adequate or dependable service. We are finding out what went wrong and what we have to do to put it right. I can assure customers that there will be a searching examination of all the causes of our poor performance."

The BR chairman was speaking in York at the handing over of the first of a new generation of commuter trains. The diesel-powered Class 165 Network Turbo is claimed to be able to cope with snow more effectively than BR's electric trains.

On the roads yesterday, rising temperatures and rain created new hazards as the thaw set in after a week of deep snow.

Motoring organisations urged drivers to take extra care because many roads remained slippery with clouds of spray and patches of fog affecting visibility as temperatures reached 9 deg C.

The thaw will come as good news for farmers who have been struggling to rescue crops such as cauliflowers, cabbage and sprouts. However, shoppers were warned to expect high prices in the shops this weekend.

Ray Vale of *The Grower*, the horticultural industry's publication, said: "Cauliflowers were up to £1.26 in the supermarket when they would normally cost between 40p and 60p. Prices had been going up since Christmas, even before this latest snow. I think the housewife will have to accept that she is going to pay a lot of money."

Mr Vale said cauliflowers were also much smaller and the bad weather has meant that one grower could lose the whole of his early crop covering 40 acres.

In Kent Rochester council has been bombarded with complaints from the public after its council workers battled through blizzards to keep tennis courts clear. Workmen were seen clearing snow from the council tennis courts while leaving iced-up footpaths untouched.

Mary Christopher, a local councillor, said: "It's daft to clear tennis courts in a snowstorm while paths are left packed with ice." A council spokesman said: "Our workmen went too far, which was I'm afraid a bit silly, and we apologise."

The London Weather Centre said that today most of Britain would be cloudy with outbreaks of rain and drizzle, mainly confined to the West later.

It will be colder than yesterday in the South but the thaw will continue and the North will be rather cold with frost in places.

Noise complaints, page 7

Aspects of love: a 14th-century Suffolk church echoed to *Love Changes Everything* as the third marriage of the song's composer, Andrew LLoyd Webber, was blessed yesterday. "We are very happy," said Mr Lloyd Webber as he posed with his new wife, Madeleine, outside St Botolph Church, Burgh. Among the guests were the bride's parents, Brigadier and Mrs Adam Gurdon, the composer's mother and John Gummer, the agriculture minister. The service included a reading by Mr Lloyd Webber's daughter Imogen, aged 13, and a performance of his work, *Benedicite*. The service and a party today at Mr Lloyd Webber's mansion, Sydmonton Court, Berkshire, had been postponed because of the weather.

Heseltine in cabinet battle

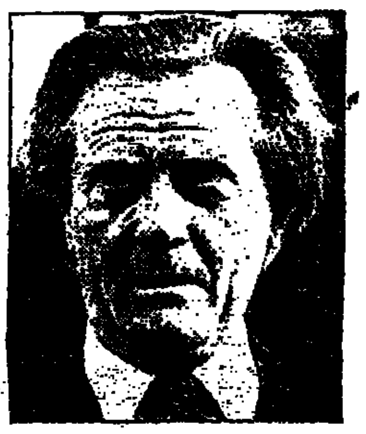
Continued from page 1

tax, similar to domestic rates, but based on the capital value of homes. The Treasury has set its face against a mix of rates and a nominal individual community charge on the grounds that it would it would be as costly to collect as the poll tax which consumes three times as much administrative effort as the rates.

A local income tax is also close to being ruled out because of Treasury unwillingness to surrender control of personal taxation to local councils. There are strong fears that different rates of local income tax would lead to movements of population between areas and that high taxes levied by Labour councils could wreck government economic strategies. A local sales tax is also opposed on similar grounds and would almost certainly fall foul of EC measures to harmonise indirect taxation.

The greatest controversy revolves around proposals to switch control of education, police and fire services from local to central government. While this would halve poll tax bills, it would add up to 5p in the pound to income tax. Mr Heseltine has described the proposal as "a fall-back position" but he is under strong pressure from Tory backbenchers to support the move.

The Treasury is unwilling to see control pass to the education department but is investigating plans to delegate control to school and college governors whose budgets would be set centrally on a formula basis. In an unreported address to council leaders at a private meeting last week Mr Heseltine said: "I am not going to preside over a review which will produce another botched job."



Hesletine: under strong backbench pressure

Russians may demand back the treasures Stalin sold

By Gabriel Ronay

STALIN's barbarous sale of Russia's artistic patrimony at bargain basement prices to Western collectors may now be challenged in a spate of ownership claims dwarfing the complexities of those surrounding the Elgin Marbles. For the new custodians of Russian culture are waking up to the fact that the cream of the country's art treasures has gone west – and they want it back.

Aleksandr Mosyakin, one of the campaigning intellectuals writing in the journal *Ogonyok*, has demanded that "steps must be taken to recover at least part of our art treasures". This demand has been echoed by the Soviet Board of Cultural Resources.

With the death of Dr Armand Hammer, the American philanthropist and chairman of Occidental Petroleum, the last player in Stalin's monumental art scam has left the stage. Other key players in the artistic asset stripping across Mother Russia during the years of Stalinist terror included an American secretary of the treasury, rapacious Western envoys and assorted Bolshevik commissars.

The cream of Russia's artistic heritage, accumulated over centuries, was squandered by Stalin and his Armenian commissar, Anastas Mikoyan, in secret deals and giveaway auctions in the West. The pick of the unique Old Masters collection of the Hermitage museum in Leningrad and the art treasures looted from the princely palaces and ancient churches also went west in exchange for hard currency. Between 1928 and 1933 Mikoyan sold to Western dealers and collectors a staggering total of 6,000 tons of Russian *objets d'art* and other artistic treasures.

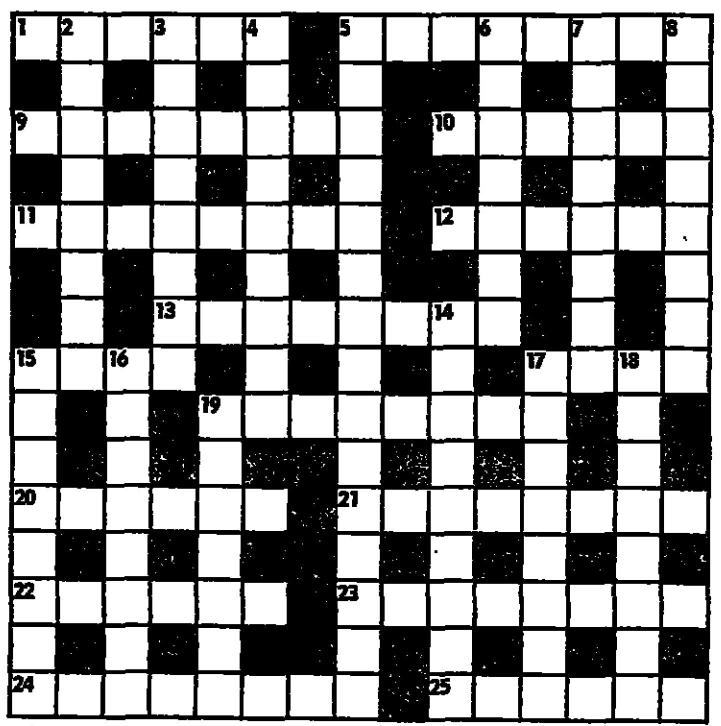
Western dealers were buzzing like bees around the Soviet art honeypot. Above the scrum, in a privileged ringside seat, was Andrew Mellon, the US Secretary of Treasury, whose private purchases from the Hermitage in the winter of 1930-31 alone included 21 Old Masters. He paid a risible $2.5 million.

Mellon's decision at the time not to prohibit trade with the Soviet Union on "ideological grounds" allowed the Kremlin to dump on world markets cheap oil and raw materials produced by forced labour. British demands for an investigation of conditions in Siberian labour camps were thwarted.

Threatened with impeachment for conflict of interest, Mellon resigned in 1932. He bequeathed his vast art collection to the city of Washington — and the National Gallery of Washington was born.

Review, page 14

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 18,531



ACROSS

1 It's proverbially right to tear into a race (6).
5 Leading light in staff is Jack (4,4).
9 Determined man will be not disheartened (4-4).
10 In a trap, Welsh retreated (6).
11 Old port and a bit to eat (8).
12 A shrew forced into line (6).
13 Put a roof on the more distant church, man (8).
15 After 6 in Ireland you need a key (4).
17 Eat a little, or a lot (4).
19 It's not surprising these days on the 25 (2,6).
20 Kind chap's wearing a shade(6).
21 Carrier hit back with *half* the guns (8).
22 Pyrenean garment (6).
23 Transfer 25, say, to eight, say (8).
24 Extinct creature spoken of in gloomy discussion (5,3).
25 European composer (6).

DOWN

2 Pilot circling is able to climb and goes through the drama again (8).
3 Confirm appointment after hearing of depression (8).
4 Out West make do with variety show (3,6).
5 Regress, as we do once a year (3,3,5,4).
6 Beryl, a Cockney border official (7).
7 A variety of tuberose, I admit (2,2,4).
8 Not Oxbridge material (8).
14 Grenadine used in making sweet (9).
15 Grouse may be secure (2,3,3).
16 I need to think, and I want to look (3,2,3).
17 One inside is more likely to appear outside (8).
18 City only half planned — in the early stages they tolerated anything (8).
19 Legal term in England but, strangely, not in US (7).

Concise Crossword, page 15

Solution to Puzzle No 18,525

C	O	B	R	A		B	A	T	T	L	E	C	R	Y
H		A		N		U		A		L		R		I
I	L	L	O	G	I	C	A	L		A	W	A	R	E
H		S		L		K		E		M		C		L
U	K	A	S	E		R	A	N	S	A	C	K	E	D
A				I		A		T				L		
H	U	M	D	R	U	M		S	H	E	R	I	F	F
U		I		O						N		N		I
A	R	S	E	N	I	C		T	E	A	R	G	A	S
		C				H		O		C				H
C	A	R	D	S	H	A	R	P		T	A	B	L	E
A		E		A		R		K		M		R		R
P	L	A	I	T		M	A	N	N	E	R	I	S	M
R		N		Y		E		O		N		C		A
I	N	T	E	R	P	R	E	T		T	O	K	E	N

Solution to Puzzle No 18,530

C	O	H	A	B	I	T		S	T	A	M	I	N	A
O		O		A		A		O		M		R		S
M	A	T	E	D		R	O	A	D	B	L	O	C	K
E		P		G		P		P		E		N		A
D	R	O	M	E	D	A	R	Y		R	A	Y	O	N
I		T				U				G				C
C	H	A	R	M		L	O	W	E	R	C	A	S	E
		T		A		I		A		I		N		
S	T	O	C	K	I	N	G	S		S	C	O	F	F
T				E				T				M		L
R	E	C	K	S		S	P	E	A	K	E	A	S	Y
I		O		O		H		L		A		L		P
V	I	C	E	V	E	R	S	A		P	O	O	N	A
E		O		E		E		N		P		U		S
S	P	A	R	R	O	W		D	E	A	D	S	E	T

PARKER DUOFOLD *A prize of a superb Parker Duofold International Fountain Pen, with an 18 carat gold nib and fully guaranteed for the lifetime of the original owner will be given for the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.*

Name/Address..

....

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

WAPITI
a. A Zulu regiment
b. A big deer
c. A Hawaiian robe

KEA
a. Korean tea
b. A sheep-killing parrot
c. Primitive backgammon

INFAUST
a. Sent to Hell
b. Burnt to a cinder
c. Unlucky

BUPPIE
a. A black yuppie
b. A minibus
c. The buttocks

Answers on page 15

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0898 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Gloucs,Avon,Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Herefds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edn S Fife/Lothan & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 33p per minute (cheap rate) and 44p per minute at all other times.

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0836 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks

C. London (within N & S Circs.)	731
M-ways/roads M4-M1	732
M-ways/roads M1-Dartford T.	733
M-ways/roads Dartford T-M23	734
M-ways/roads M23-M4	735
M25 London Orbital only	736

National traffic and roundworks

National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 33p per minute (cheap rate) and 44p per minute at all other times.

The winners of last Saturday's competition are: D Marshall, Mill Road, Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire; R J Walters, Holly Bush Road, Hook Norton, Oxon; M A Jones, Salisbury Road, Worthing, Sussex; F Stevens, Beech Close, Cheadle, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire; A Wexler, The Drive, Coulsdon, Surrey.

WEATHER

England, Wales, Northern Ireland and parts of western Scotland will be cloudy with outbreaks of rain, becoming confined to south-west England, west Wales and Northern Ireland. Over northern and eastern Scotland, eastern England and perhaps East Anglia, there will be a few wintry showers, but most places will be dry. Outlook: bright and dry after fog and frost clear. Rain in north-western areas on Monday.

ABROAD

MIDDAY: t=thunder; d=drizzle; fg=fog; s=sun; sl=sleet; sn=snow; f=fair; c=cloud; r=rain

	C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	10	50	s	Majorca	10	50	s
Akrotiri	19	66	s	Malaga	13	55	s
Alex'dria	23	73	s	Malta	13	55	f
Algiers	9	48	c	Melb'rne	17	63	c
Amst'dm	0	32	sn	Mexico C*	23	73	s
Athens	18	64	s	Miami*	28	82	s
Barbads*	29	84	c	Milan	1	34	s
Barcelna	7	45	s	Montreal*	-5	23	sn
Belgrade	-3	27	c	Moscow	-4	25	c
Berlin	-1	30	c	Munich	-2	28	c
Bermuda*	21	70	f	Nairobi	28	82	s
Biarritz	8	46	s	Naples	8	46	s
Borde'x	5	41	c	N Delhi	21	70	s
Brussels	-1	30	sn	N York*	9	48	c
Budapst	-3	27	s	Nice	9	48	f
B Aires*	20	68	c	Oslo	-8	18	c
Cairo	26	79	s	Paris	-2	28	sn
Cape Tn	21	70	s	Peking	6	43	c
C'blanca	15	59	s	Perth	28	82	s
Chicago*	-4	25	sn	Prague	-3	27	f
Ch'church	24	75	r	Reykjvik	2	36	s
Cologne	1	34	sn	Rhodes	16	61	c
C'phagn	0	32	c	Rio de J	29	84	s
Corfu	7	45	c	Rome	8	46	s
Dublin	10	50	c	Salzburg	-3	27	c
Dubrovnik	4	39	s	S F'risco*	14	57	s
Faro	12	54	s	Santiago*	28	82	s
Florence	6	43	s	S Paulo*	29	84	c
Frankfurt	-1	30	sn	Seoul	3	37	r
Funchal	15	59	c	Sing'por	31	88	f
Geneva	-1	30	f	St'kholm	-7	19	sn
Gibraltar	14	57	s	Strasb'rg	0	32	f
Helsinki	-4	25	sn	Sydney	24	75	c
Hong K	18	64	s	Tangier	15	59	s
Innsbrck	0	32	f	Tenerife	17	63	c
Istanbul	13	55	f	Tokyo	7	45	r
Jo'burg*	24	75	f	Toronto*	-3	27	sn
Karachi	19	66	s	Tunis	8	46	f
L Palmas	18	64	c	Valencia	10	50	s
Le Tquet	4	39	r	Vanc'ver*	10	50	r
Lisbon	10	50	s	Venice	3	37	s

* denotes figures are latest available

AROUND BRITAIN

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	4.5	-	6	43	sunny
Anglesey	1.3	.05	5	41	rain
Aviemore	3.3	-	3	37	bright
Belfast	-	.04	5	41	rain
Birmingham	7.9	-	3	37	sunny
Blackpool	1.8	-	5	41	fog
Bognor Regis	6.9	-	4	39	sunny
Bournemouth	6.6	-	5	41	sunny
Brighton	5.3	-	3	37	sunny
Bristol	4.1	-	5	41	sunny
Buxton	5.4	-	x	x	sunny
Cardiff	2.0	-	5	41	bright
Clacton	2.0	-	1	34	bright
Cromer	5.8	.04	3	37	sunny
Douglas	3.2	.02	6	43	rain
Edinburgh	6.4	-	4	39	sunny
Eskdalemuir	-	.01	1	34	rain
Falmouth	4.5	-	7	45	cloudy
Folkestone	8.8	-	3	37	sunny
Guernsey	4.4	-	7	45	bright
Hastings	7.4	-	3	37	sunny
Hunstanton	3.7	-	-1	30	bright
Jersey	3.8	-	7	45	bright
Leeds	6.6	-	4	39	sunny
Lerwick	-	.06	5	41	rain
Lowestoft	4.5	-	0	32	sunny
Minehead	5.8	-	5	41	sunny
Morecambe	1.0	-	3	37	fog
Newcastle	X	-	5	41	cloudy
Newquay	X	-	7	45	rain
Nottingham	3.2	-	3	37	fog
Penzance	4.3	.03	8	46	rain
Plymouth	5.6	-	6	43	sunny
Scarborough	8.6	.10	0	32	sunny
Scilly Isles	3.1	.07	7	45	sunny
Southend	-	-	2	36	fair
Southsea	8.0	-	5	41	sunny
St. Ives	4.3	.01	7	45	sunny
Stornoway	-	.10	6	43	rain
Swanage	8.9	-	6	43	sunny
Teignmouth	6.9	-	6	43	sunny
Tenby	-	.09	5	41	rain
Tiree	-	.19	6	43	rain
Torquay	7.5	-	7	45	sunny
Weymouth	7.2	-	6	43	sunny
Wick	1.3	-	5	41	bright

These are Thursday's figures

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	2.46	7.1	3.11	7.2
Aberdeen	2.19	4.1	2.15	4.4
Avonmouth	8.16	13.3	8.33	13.2
Belfast	11.56	3.4		
Cardiff	8.01	12.2	8.18	12.2
Devonport	7.04	5.6	7.25	5.4
Dover			12.03	6.4
Falmouth	6.34	5.4	6.55	5.2
Glasgow	1.52	4.5	2.06	4.8
Harwich	12.41	3.8	1.03	3.9
Holyhead	11.18	5.7	11.37	5.4
Hull	7.21	7.3	7.27	7.7

Tide measured in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.

LIGHTING-UP TIMES

TODAY
London 5.17 pm to 7.12 am
Bristol 5.26 pm to 7.21 am
Edinburgh 5.18 pm to 7.35 am
Manchester 5.20 pm to 7.25 am
Penzance 5.41 pm to 7.30 am

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Thursday: Highest day temp: Penzance, Cornwall, 8C (46F); lowest day max: Honington, Suffolk, -2C (28F); highest rainfall: Tiree, Hebrides, 0.19 in; highest sunshine: Swanage, Dorset, 8.9 hr.

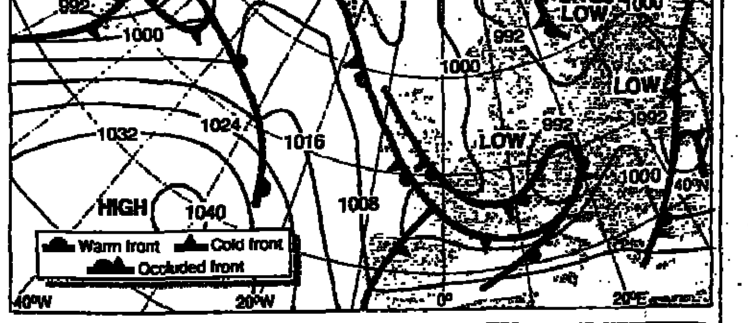
MANCHESTER

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 7C (45F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 2C (36F). Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.1 in. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, nil.

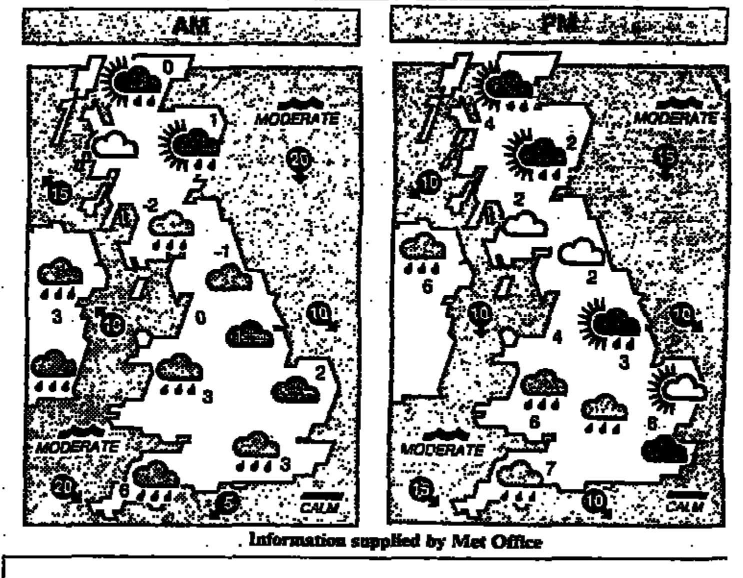
GLASGOW

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 7C (45F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 1C (35F). Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.09 in. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 3.2 hr.

NOON TODAY



TODAY	Sun rises:	Sun sets:	TOMORROW	Sun rises:	Sun sets:
	7.14 am	5.17 pm		7.12 am	5.18 pm
	Moon rises:	Moon sets:		Moon rises:	Moon sets:
	7.30 am	7.46 pm		7.46 am	9.03 pm



Information supplied by Met Office

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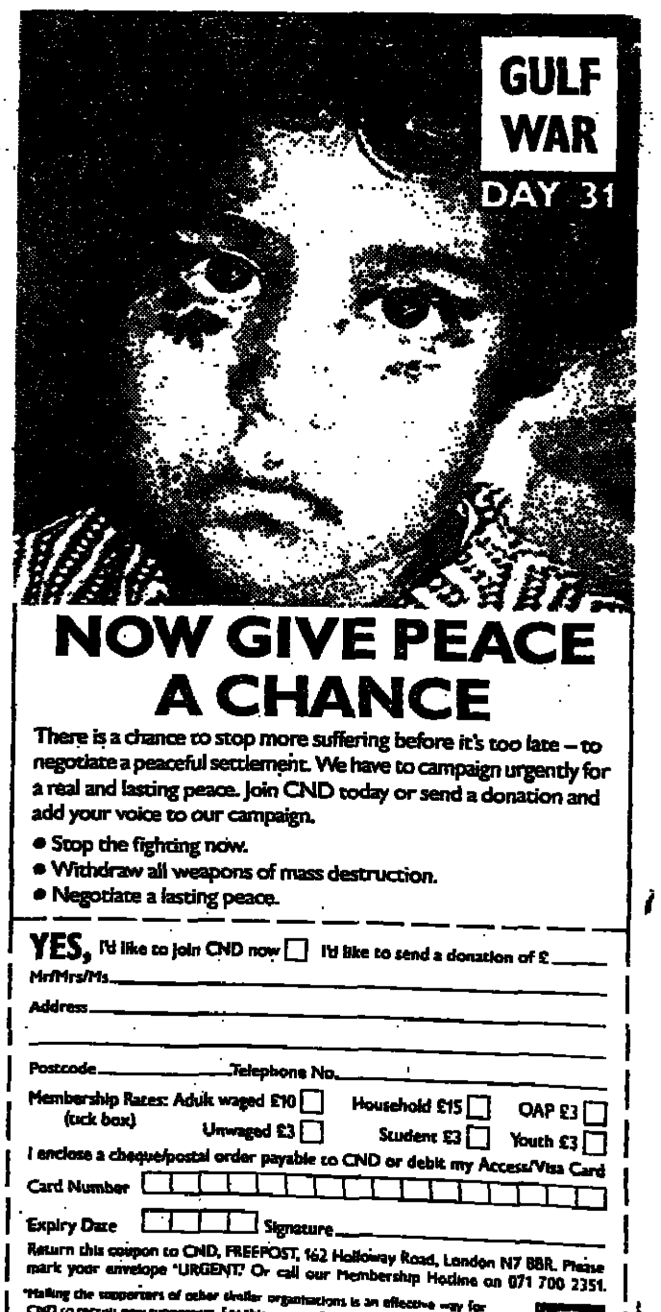

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Card Number ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐
Expiry Date ☐☐☐☐ Signature______
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هكذا من الاصل

- SPORT 25-30
- BUSINESS AND FINANCE 30-35
- WEEKEND MONEY 36-40

SPORT

SUMMARY

A Cup of memories

ONE footballer with particular memories of the FA Cup is Gary Stevens (above), who plays for Portsmouth this afternoon against one of the two sides with whom he has finished a beaten finalist at Wembley. Stevens faces Tottenham Hotspur in a fifth-round tie at Fratton Park, eager to prove that a succession of injuries has not dulled the skills that took him to Mexico with England for the 1986 World Cup finals. Clive White finds that Stevens is very much at home with his teammates at Portsmouth........Page 27

CRICKET

Late returns

TWO wickets shortly before the close gave England A reason for satisfaction after the first day of the second five-day match against Sri Lanka A yesterday. Richard Streeton reports from Colombo on England's gamble to play only four bowlers and their day of toil in the field as Kuruppu made an unbeaten 116 in a score of 205 for three. In New Zealand, John Crawley made a captain's 112 not out in leading England to a first-innings lead in the under-19 Test match........Page 30

ATHLETICS

Cross hares

SARAH Rowell (above), Britain's former fastest marathon runner, attempts to win the women's national cross-country championship at Birkenhead today after a long period of injury. But, as David Powell reports, she faces strong opposition from Andrea Whitcombe........Page 28

RUGBY LEAGUE

Form dictates

WHILE the eyes of the union code will be on Twickenham and Cardiff today, Great Britain meet France at Headingley in the 13-a-side version of rugby confident of victory after a convincing win in Perpignan earlier this season. Keith Macklin warns against complacency. Page 28

RACING

Valued Coin

SIRRELL Griffiths (above) saddles Norton's Coin, his 100-1 Cheltenham Gold Cup winner, in the valuable Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup at Leopardstown today. Channel 4 will show five races (three live, two recorded) from the Dublin course. Windsor today expects to stage the first turf racing in Britain for a fortnight........Page 29

GOLF

Ground swell

GREG Norman, advised by a British teacher to keep his feet on the ground, considered he had played his best nine holes for two years in taking the halfway lead in the Australian Masters yesterday. Mitchell Platts reports from Melbourne on Norman's attempt for a record of event wins.. Page 27

Calcutta Cup rests on the love-hate lineout

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

LOVE it or loathe it, the lineout is one of the two distinctive confrontational features of rugby union. It was there, many critics opined, that England lost their way against Scotland at Murrayfield in that climactic grand slam match 11 months ago; it is there they could stand or fall in their five nations' championship match, and Calcutta Cup contest, against the Scots at Twickenham this afternoon.

The lineout has been variously described as a shambles, a mess, rugby's illegitimate baby. Yet when executed — and quickly, which is a key element — by as proficient a technician as Robert Norster, of Wales, it can be as uplifting as any aspect of play.

Nothing is more calculated to attract the public ire than photographs of players clearly suspended by the efforts of their colleagues, though, as in all things, it may be a question of interpretation. Was he lifted or is he merely being "supported" after the ball has been won?

The law prohibits the jumper using any other player as a support before the ball has been thrown in or before it has been touched by a player. According to my reading, however, there is nothing to stop one player supporting another after contact has been made with the ball.

"A good lineout support player can keep you up at the top of your jump. Is that lifting or supporting?" Paul Ackford asks. As a policeman, he has a professional concern with the letter of the law.

Ackford, the Harlequins lock, who today makes his fourteenth England appearance, has no fond memory of last season's 13-7 defeat at Murrayfield: "We were too predictable in what we had planned," he said. "I remember going to the first lineout and Finlay [Calder] came from the back to the front, stepped in and took a low, flat ball, one touch and it was away.

"They tried to take it away from the static lineout, which had worked so successfully for us before. They used the tail of the lineout effectively, through Jeffrey and White, and on our ball they were spoilers.

"Before that game, we had not had to work out counters to any of our opponents during the course of the match. I suppose you could say we were victims of our success. We should have had more variations. Now we are a year older and, I hope, wiser. It's an element of our game we have looked at."

The interesting feature of last season's game, however, was not Scotland's success at the lineout, which on overall figures was comparative. England still won the phase 19-11. It was the very limited number of lineouts which took place in the first quarter of the game; the frequency with which Scotland had the throw; the variations they introduced on their own throw by using Calder and John Jeffrey at the front and Damian Cronin at the back; and the sheer uncertainty they induced among the English forwards.

Suddenly, a phase of the game which had been as solid as rock became as insecure as sand, and England did not think sufficiently quickly on the hoof. Where they had expected early possession, they found themselves limited. Though they achieved the anticipated domination by the second half, Scotland had the lead by that time and were prepared to defend all day.

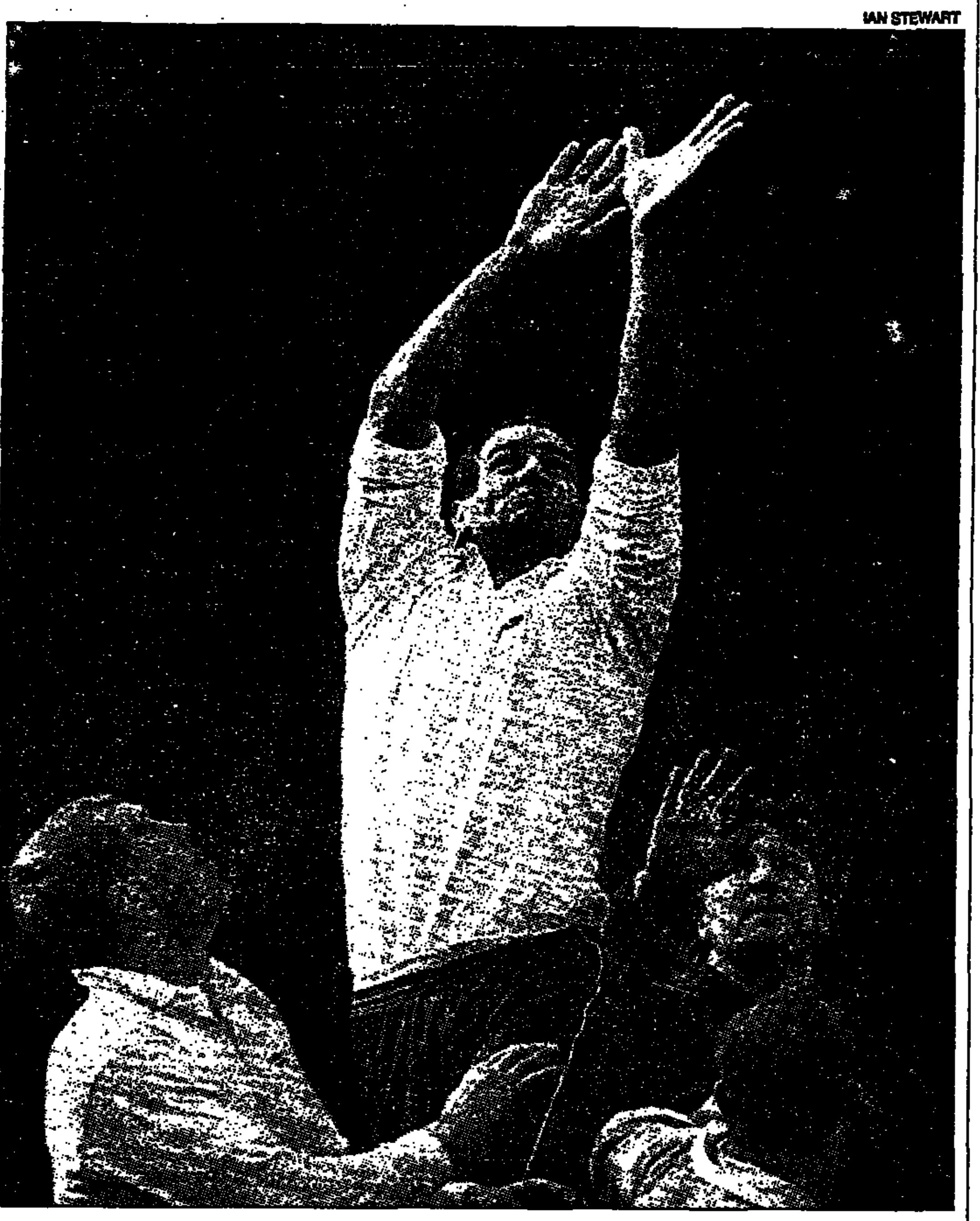
It was in sharp contrast with Scotland's display at the lineout against Wales a fortnight ago. Overall, the Scottish advantage amounted to 17-11, but they established dominance early on so that Wales were always desperately trying to get into the game, notably at the lineout where the first half-dozen throws were all by Scotland. On their own throw, the Welsh jumpers performed tolerably well — but their opportunities were strictly limited.

Ackford understands why this should be. Having been coached by Ian McGeechan in 1989, when the British Lions were in Australia, he knows how minute the Scots' preparation is and he has a healthy respect both for their coach and players.

"They're a very potent force," he said. "Any forward who comes back from New Zealand with the volume of praise that Chris Gray did has to be good. They organise themselves well and I have the greatest respect for David Sole as an all-round forward.

"The Scots have come on since they were last at Twickenham. They have some genuine world-class players and the confidence of knowing they have performed well against us in recent matches. They're fit and well coached and well led. We will have our hands full."

IAN STEWART



Hands up: Ackford, watched by Richard Hill, reaches for the sky during training yesterday

Carling's challenge, page 26
A game divided, page 26
Desperate Wales, page 26

Tottenham may have to try out the untried

By Clive White

TOTTENHAM Hotspur, whose record in the FA Cup in recent years does not inspire great confidence, may be forced to throw an untried young forward into today's FA Cup fifth-round tie against Portsmouth at Fratton Park after Paul Walsh damaged an ankle in training yesterday.

Walsh stayed behind at White Hart Lane for treatment and a decision about whether he will join up with the squad today was left until this morning. If he is considered unfit, either Phil Gray, aged 22, or Scott Houghton, aged 19, will take his place alongside Gary Lineker. Paul Stewart is suspended.

"Both are very promising players and I have every confidence in them," Terry Venables, the Tottenham manager, said as he prepared for the worst. "I would not be afraid of having to ask them to play."

Gray, an Irishman, figured in the senior squad on a few occasions two seasons ago but has only recently resumed playing after a hernia operation kept him out for almost a year. This season he has been on loan to Fulham. Houghton, who can play either in a central position or wide on the right, is a regular reserve.

Gascoigne, who was substituted in England's game against Cameroon on Wednesay of last week because of a persistent groin injury, has been passed fit, unlike David Howells, who fears that he may need an operation to his knee.

"We are advised by a specialist that the rest and treatment Gascoigne has had since then will be beneficial," Venables said. "Obviously, we are hoping to avoid the need for an operation."

Gascoigne's convalesence and, just as importantly, that of Walsh could receive a welcome extension if the widespread thaw in the weather continues at a pace on the south coast. But the Fratton Park pitch was passed fit yesterday afternoon despite the surface water, which is threatening to turn matches into a lottery if they are played at all.

The Abbey Stadium pitch, where Cambridge United hope to play Sheffield Wednesday, was described yesterday as a "duck pond" down the middle by the stadium manager, which will do nothing for Sheffield Wednesday's low-gravity game. Cambridge, who tend to play from one penalty area to the next, were less concerned. "Not one for the purists," as Ron Atkinson, the manager of Wednesday and once of Cambridge, noted. Cambridge's new drainage system should ensure that the game goes ahead.

Notts County, who receive Manchester City, are also confident but the Upton Park pitch will need an inspection before West Ham United can take on Crewe Alexandra. The ties at Anfield and Elland Road are sure of going ahead.

If Arsenal are to win at the fourth time of asking against Leeds United they must do so without Perry Groves and Anders Limpar, who was outstanding in the first replay at Elland Road. George Graham, the Arsenal manager, however, said that Limpar's injury to his ankle ligaments was not as bad as many people had been speculating.

Kingston incensed over Greek appeal

By Nicholas Harling

ONE of the two victories gained by Kingston basketball club in the final pool of the European Cup might be annulled if Aris Salonika have their way. The Greeks are appealing to Fiba, the International Basketball Federation, to have the game, which they lost at Crystal Palace, replayed.

That game, nine days ago, ended with many unruly Greek spectators chasing Kingston supporters across the court, having earlier thrown coins at Kingston players and besieged the floor.

With those memories still in mind, the English club was incensed to learn that Aris are asking Fiba to have the game played again. They are alleging that Panagiotis Giannakis should have been allowed to stay on court after fouling out as it was his fourth offence and not his fifth. Kingston do not dispute their claim.

"The point they are making is a valid one but we are appalled," Alan Kingston, a club director, said yesterday. "If there was any confusion among the officials, it was because of the awful behaviour of the Greek crowd.

"We are all very aggrieved because television also clearly shows that a shot from Alton Byrd should have counted as a three-pointer for us instead of a two-point basket. He was a good six inches outside the line."

Aris are third in the final pool table — four places ahead of Kingston, whose seventh defeat, by 91-72, came on Thursday in Yugoslavia against the holders. Pop 84 Split.

A frank message which did not mean offence

SIMON BARNES
ON SATURDAY

More fun and frolics from Italian football: some you win, some you lose. Roma football club was in trouble for the behaviour of supporters after a match against AC Milan in Rome. Roma was fined £5,000 for the throwing of what was decribed as "a paper bomb", but it got away with a banner that carried the charming inscription: "Rijkaard, Rome vomits all over you."

Frank Rijkaard is a Dutch international who plays for Milan, and he is black. The banner was referring to a famously elegant spitting incident involving Rijkaard. The disciplinary committee decided the banner was "devoid of any racial or territorial connotation".

● *A traditionally distasteful part of any rugby union match contested by the French is the introduction of live cockerels to the proceedings. The Irish are busy chasing various roosters imported for the Ireland-France match this afternoon, though this is being done on agricultural rather than humanitarian grounds. The birds, which could be carrying some un-Irish virus, were smuggled into the country. Two have been caught, as I write, and will be killed. There is a third at large, which will also be killed once the agriculture department has got its hands on it.*

Striking it rich

The most expensive player in baseball has lost pole position. Jose Canseco, renowned slugger with the Oakland A's, is on a contract worth a piffling $4.7 million a year. This parsimonious sum has been eclipsed by Roger Clemens, who has completed negotiations that will earn him $5.37 million annually over the next four years.

Clemens, the No. 1 pitcher in the game, plays for the Boston Red Sox, and becomes baseball's first $5 million-man. Darryl Strawberry, easily the best name in baseball, moves into third place for the Los Angeles Dodgers with $4.05 million.

Not every player makes money like this, as Pete Incavaglia, an outfielder with the Texas Rangers, said: "People think we make three and four million dollars a year. They don't realise that most of us only make $500,000."

Not patched up

Pete Rose, baseball legend, convicted tax-dodger and compulsive gambler, remains a love-object in the United States, despite baseball's refusal to let him into its Hall of Fame. Marco Lokar, an Italian college basketball player with Seton Hall, looks to be on the verge of being drummed out of the game for having an independent mind and a conscience.

The links between patriotism and sport in the United States are alarmingly close: it has become the custom in recent months for competitive athletes to wear a Stars and Stripes patch on the team uniform, in order to show proper patriotism and appropriately warm sentiments about the boys in the Gulf.

Everybody else at Seton Hall opted to wear the patch, including an Israeli and a Russian. Lokar was not trying to make a big thing about it. "I have my reasons and that's it," was all he would say to reporters. He was booed every time he touched the ball when he played at Madison Square Garden on February 2. He has not taken part in a game since then, and he is now talking about leaving college and going back to Italy.

Words roll out

He heard the news that Hereford had been elected to the Football League in place of Barrow on the radio around four o'clock. "I just couldn't speak to anyone or say anything. I went up and sat on my bed for I don't know how long. I just couldn't believe what had happened. Why Barrow?

"My wife just shakes her head, but she has never discouraged me one bit. When I first met her, I said: 'I'm a Barrow football supporter.' She said: 'You're joking, aren't you?' Our courting was interrupted; one Saturday I was off to Barnet, and another to Bangor."

These are extracts from an interview with Terry Kendall, footballing person, mourning Barrow's fall from the League in 1972. It comes from a booklet about Barrow football club, entitled *In The Beginning There Was The End*, obtainable at £2.30 from Martin Wingfield, Worthing Typesetting, 9 King Edwards Avenue, Worthing, Sussex, BN14 8BD.

Top coach dismisses drug claim

By David Powell
Athletics Correspondent

JOE Douglas, the manager of the two fastest men in the world, jumped to the defence of Britain yesterday in response to allegations by Charlie Francis, Ben Johnson's coach, that athletics here has an inveterate drugs problem. "There is nobody in Britain I would accuse of being on drugs," Douglas said, making it clear he was talking only of the world within which he works: elite men's running.

In his new book, *Speed Trap*, Francis makes several references implicating British athletes. In an interview with *The Times*, he said: "If Britain wants to know what is going on, the way to find out is to grant an amnesty to the athletes and let them come forward to tell their story."

But Douglas, who manages Carl Lewis, the Olympic 100 metres champion, and Leroy Burrell, who set a 60 metres indoor world record on Wednesday, said that Britain fitted in with his assessment of the level of drug-taking worldwide in the sport.

"I do not think drugs are as widespread as people say they are," Douglas said. "Most of the athletes are clean. Linford Christie is clean and my athletes are clean. We know Charlie Francis is a drugs coach. Tom Tellez [who coaches Lewis and Burrell] is not a drugs coach."

Douglas said he drew his conclusions from his dealings with coaches and by studying the athletes' physiques looking for telltale signs. He would not put a figure on the Francis claim that more than 80 per cent of athletes were on drugs. "They say 60 per cent of the National Football League is clean and we are a lot better than that. But I am not selling a book."

Burrell's new aim, page 28

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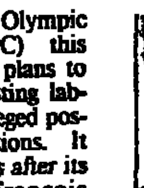
An IOC decision that should be challenged



COMMENT

EDWARD GRAYSON

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) this month scrapped plans to set up mobile drug-testing laboratories because of alleged possible legal complications. It appeared *only five days after* its director-general, Francois Carrard, himself a distinguished lawyer, passed over the opportunity to test its validity at the symposium on sport and the law organised by the *International* Amateur Athletic Federation's (IAAF) charitable arm, the International Athletic Foundation (IAF), in Monte Carlo, for an international gathering of sports lawyers and administrators.

It is a decision which should be challenged by every self-respecting sporting governing body concerned to eliminate cheating by drugs.

From a practising lawyer's standpoint, the reported reasons from Michèle Verdier, the IOC's director of information, that "there might have been conflicts with national legal systems ... and we could have faced lawsuits charging the freedom of the individual was being infringed," are both unrealistic and untenable. Correspondingly, it is arguable that the Home Office decision this week not to outlaw anabolic steroids under parliamentary legislation, notwithstanding overwhelming medical evidence to health hazards, is equally unrealistic and untenable.

These conclusions are confirmed from the layman's standpoint by as experienced an administrator as Sir Arthur Gold, the chairman of the British Olympic Association (BOA), among his other international roles. It is also consistent with the broadside fired at Monte Carlo by Robert Armstrong, counsel to Mr Justice Dubin's Canadian commission of enquiry into the use of drugs and banned practices intended to increase athletic performance.

Armstrong explained at the IAF symposium that the IAAF must have regard to its own rules in exercising leadership, and in particular to Rule 57(1)(iii): "*It is a condition of membership of the IAAF that a member includes within its constitution: a provision allowing the IAAF to conduct out-of-competition testing (including challenge testing) on that member's athletes.*"

He explained how he had been told that not one American athlete had yet submitted to the IAAF's out-of-competition testing programme, and concluded that if any of its members, *including The Athletics* Congress (TAC) in the United States, are not prepared to accept the burden of Rule 57, then they ought not enjoy the benefits of international competition as a member of the IAAF.

This was one of the recommendations of the Dubin Commission which also recommended the IOC to refuse eligibility where the testing programmes of national sports organisations are not effective in detecting and deterring drug use in sport. That is why the IOC's reasons of alleged possible legal complications for abandoning mobile drug-testing laboratories are fatally flawed.

Sir Arthur has frequently tried in vain to persuade the IOC to extend its own eligibility Rule 26 (equivalent to the IAAF Rule 57) to include a willingness for each member country's athletes to undergo mandatory out-of-competition drug-testing procedure practices as a prerequisite to competing in the Olympic Games. His lack of success to date is comparable to the Football Association's *failure until* this season to persuade Fifa, the world governing body, to introduce a mandatory sanction for the so-called professional foul.

Such a condition of IOC membership would provide potential participants with the voluntary option of competing under dope-testing rules, mobile, random or otherwise for eradication of cheating and protection of health as well as of sport; or, alternatively, equally voluntarily, *of deciding to withdraw* from competing under such eminently fair and reasonable conditions of entry into Olympic competitions.

There can be no question whatsoever of any "freedom of the individual ... being infringed." The position is analogous to joining a club of which the rules are known in advance. *Either they are* acceptable to a candidate for entry, or they are not, with the inevitable consequence, voluntarily again, to keep out.

Illustrative of this voluntary element is the trilateral agreement between Australia, Canada and the United Kingdom which came into force on December 19, *1990.* Their arrangement implements a programme of interaction between their respective countries for activating the international Olympic charter against doping in sport, which lacks Sir Arthur's initiative.

At Monte Carlo, Armstrong cited Sir Arthur's claim in the Dubin Commission report that "only the careless or ill-advised get caught" when tested at competitions; and he explained that when the IOC takes credit for its disqualification of Ben Johnson in Seoul, it is really damning itself with faint praise. For in the two-year period before September 1988, Johnson was tested 19 times at various competitions, always with a negative result; and the fact that he was tested positive at the Seoul Olympics was the result of panic and miscalculation by the Johnson entourage.

Last week Verdier admitted: "The concept of unannounced mobile drug-testing laboratories, or 'flying labs', crossing frontiers in the fight against doping in sport, was a great one; but in the end, after lengthy examination by the medical commission and our lawyers, it was decided to drop the project."

Sir Arthur has long damned this evil in sport as destructive of it. Armstrong concluded his submissions to the Dubin Commission with a sport's lawyer's approach: "Those athletes who attempt to beat the system by taking performance-enhancing drugs are victims of their own dishonesty. While they cheat others, they cheat themselves because they will never know how good they really can be. There are many other victims of drug abuse in sport but none is a greater victim than the athlete and the coach who have competed drug-free — who played the game by its rules."

The IOC should be advised to seek a second opinion, ideally from Robert Armstrong, QC. Furthermore, the Home Office must be advised to take a second opinion from the IOC medical committee.

● *Edward Grayson is a barrister and an authority on sport and the law*

England today hope to settle a score and tilt the rugby balance in their favour while Ireland head hopefully to the Arms Park

Carling ready to bring his side in from the brink

By DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

LEST anyone forget, England played a rugby match a month ago. Since that day in Cardiff there has been such a welter of peripheral activity that the playing of the game has been almost obscured; almost, but not quite, certainly not by Scotland, who parade at Twickenham this afternoon the grand slam they resolutely seized in last season's five nations' championship.

There will be no grand slam for the Scots this season — France have already seen to that — but the triple crown remains a tempting reward as both countries sustain their drive, in this international sponsored by Save and Prosper, towards the World Cup in the autumn. On the face of it, too, Scotland have the greater playing advantage: two games in sequence (France and Wales) and preparations uninterrupted by the weather.

For a variety of reasons, however, a certain iron has entered the English soul. Twice they have lingered on the brink, in 1989 and 1990, *and twice they have come* away with nothing; their Hodgkinson-inspired victory over Wales last month suggested very firmly that a "pretty" game is not their concern — a *winning* game is.

It is difficult, though, for an outsider to appreciate the strained attitude England took into that Welsh match. The breaking of the bogy has left the players more relaxed, even if that has not always been apparent from their public utterances; to that extent they may be prepared to play a higher-risk game than was offered in Cardiff.

But a flowing game is unlikely; these two countries seldom produce such a match unless one side has such a firm advantage, akin to that of 1980 when England's backs went to town. More often the Scottish spanner is thrown into the English works: "They have looked at our play and they have got the approach right," Geoff Cooke, the England team manager, admitted.

"The Scots are very good on the 50-50 ball, they are very sharp around the field, their reactions are very good. We have to match that. I don't think the team believes it will win unless the players raise their game at least 25 per cent from the way they played in Cardiff."

Will Carling, *the captain*, said the Murrayfield experience remained clear in the minds of his players; if it does not he has furnished them with press reports from last March as bed-time reading. A year ago, Scotland disrupted the English half-back hinge and, *judging by Gary* Armstrong's form this season, will hope to do so again.

That will depend upon the forward contest: a fortnight ago Scotland rampaged happily against a feeble Welsh challenge. But it did emphasise the need for England to lift their scrummaging performance, so sadly affected in Cardiff by a lack of preparation, so that the sting can be drawn from the Scottish back row, and from the effervescent Armstrong.

If England can gain forward ascendency, the primary requisite will be to use possession swiftly. Too many times the side has become wrapped up in forward drives, ostensibly to suck in the opposing loose trio but which denies the backs the yard of space in which they can work. The try scored by Jeremy Guscott at Murrayfield was a case in point.

The Princess Royal, who *will officially open* Twickenham's North Stand at lunchtime today, expresses the hope on BBC Radio's *Sport on Four* programme this morning that the teams "*remember to play rugby*". I hope it is not treasonable to suggest that rugby takes many forms and should be played to suit team strengths. England have a good back division; they should use it.

TODAY'S TEAMS AT TWICKENHAM

England			Scotland	
S D Hodgkinson (Nottingham)	15	Full back	A G Hastings (Watsonians)	15
N J Heslop (Orrell)	14	Right wing	A G Stanger (Hawick)	14
W D C Carling* (Harlequins)	13	Right centre	S Hastings (Watsonians)	13
J C Guscott (Bath)	12	Left centre	S R P Lineen (Boroughmuir)	12
R Underwood (RAF/Leicester)	11	Left wing	A Moore (Edinburgh Acads)	11
C R Andrew (Wasps)	10	Stand off	C M Chalmers (Melrose)	10
R J Hill (Bath)	9	Scrum half	G Armstrong (Jed-Forest)	9
J Leonard (Harlequins)	1	Prop	D M B Sole* (Edinburgh Acads)	1
B C Moore (Harlequins)	2	Hooker	K S Milne (Heriot's FP)	2
J A Probyn (Wasps)	3	Prop	A P Burnell (London Scottish)	3
M C Teague (Gloucester)	6	Flanker	D J Turnbull (Hawick)	6
P J Ackford (Harlequins)	4	Lock	C A Gray (Nottingham)	4
W A Dooley (Pr Grasshoppers)	5	Lock	D F Cronin (Bath)	5
P J Winterbottom (Harlequins)	7	Flanker	J Jeffrey (Kelso)	7
D Richards (Leicester)	8	No 8	D B White (London Scottish)	8

*Captain

*Captain

Referee: S R Hilditch (Ireland)

REPLACEMENTS: 16 J M Webb (Bath), 17 S J Halliday (Harlequins), 18 C D Morris (Orrell), 19 P A G Rendall (Wasps), 20 C J Olver (Northampton), 21 M G Skinner (Harlequins)

REPLACEMENTS: 16 P W Dods (Gala), 17 D S Wyllie (Stewart's Melville FP), 18 G H Oliver (Hawick), 19 G R Marshall (Selkirk) 20 D F Milne (Heriot's FP), 21 J A Hay (Hawick)

TWICKENHAM DETAILS

● This will be the 107th match between England and Scotland, of which England have won 50 and Scotland 39. The Calcutta Cup was first contested in the ninth match of the series, at Raeburn Place, which was drawn.

● The first game played at Twickenham between the two countries was in 1911 and Scotland have won there only four times in 1926 (17-9), 1938 (21-16), 1971 (16-15) and 1983 (22-12). Peter Dods, a replacement today, kicked three penalties and a conversion in the 1983 match.

● The North Stand is opened officially today. Ten years ago, when the South Stand was opened, England beat Scotland 23-17, scoring three tries, as many as they have scored in the last four matches between the countries.

● Gavin Hastings requires six points in his thirtieth appearance as Scotland's full back to reach a total of 300 in internationals. Simon Hodgkinson, his opposite number, has scored exactly half Hastings's total — 147 points in ten internationals.

Five nations' table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
France	2	2	0	0	36	22	4
England	1	1	0	0	25	6	2
Scotland	2	1	0	1	41	27	2
Ireland	1	0	0	1	13	21	0
Wales	2	0	0	2	18	57	0

RESULTS: Jan 19: France 15 Scotland 9; Wales 6 England 25. Feb 2: Ireland 13 France 21. Scotland 32 Wales 12.

MATCHES TO COME: Today: England v Scotland Wales v Ireland. Mar 2: France v Wales. Ireland v England. Mar 16: England v France. Scotland v Ireland.

LAST SEASON: England 23, Ireland 0; Wales 19 France 29. France 7 England 26; Ireland 10 Scotland 13. England 34 Wales 6, Scotland 21 France 0, France 31 Ireland 12: Wales 9 Scotland 13: Scotland 13 England 7; Ireland 14 Wales 8.

Steadying influence: Phil Davies returns for Wales

Welsh must triumph to offset whitewash

By GERALD DAVIES

A FEW years ago, to anticipate a rugby international — any international — was reason enough to warm a Welshman's blood on the coldest of wintry days; to send the red stuff helter skeltering through his veins. Every step he took across the bridge that spans the Taff-inspired spring in his heel, a lively swagger, a smile and a tip of his jaunty cap. There might have been, even at that time of the morning, a ready song on his lips. At least, that is the way it now seems.

What is certain is that there was along Duke Street and Saint Mary's Street, a delicious whiff of a nation pleasurably, cheekily and, sometimes, rudely at play. "You ain't seen nothin' yet," he might confidently have said to his opposing neighbour, who came simply hoping for the best. And invariably, not getting very far, would return home with an empty bag as usual.

All is a fading memory. So resigned is the mood that even a Welshman — especially a Welshman — is insisting nowadays that rugby is, after all, only a game. "What is all the fuss?" he wistfully asks. Knowing full well there is no fuss he can possibly make. Wales, after a whitewash last season, are despairingly trying to stave off a repetition this year. Desperation not celebration is the mainspring; win a game is the call. Any old game.

Ireland arrive at the Arms Park this afternoon for the match sponsored by Lada, in search of a fourth consecutive win in Cardiff; would anyone, Welsh, Irish or anybody else for that matter, have ever believed that in his wildest reckoning a decade ago.

Ireland come with an air of confidence with a team so young and raw that, for once in a very long time, the old jibe of "Dad's Army" which normally greeted them, cannot any longer be dragged out of a journalist's safety store of cliches. Only Mullin, Matthews, Steve Smith and Des Fitzgerald have played *for their country at the Arms* Park before.

Ireland introduced six newcomers for their match against France, three more — Staples, Curtis and Clarke — have their beginnings today in the back division. The pack, who were so resolute and particularly profitable in the lineout, has been given a full vote of confidence. And such is the flavour of that confidence that Brian Smith, at stand-off half, has come in for some criticism for over indulging his use of the garryowen and other forms of kicking. The word expansive is said to be bandied around among the squad, introduced, no doubt, by the metropolitan air of London Irish sophistication.

Wales remain in no-man's land, uncertain quite which way to turn next. The re-introduction of Mike Griffiths, at loose-head prop, and the return of Phil Davies, at No. 8, with a ballast of Morris and the new cap, Lewis, at his side, ought to lend firmer stability to the scrum. Provided, that is, that the newcomer, John Davies, can hold his own at tight-head prop at this level.

Arnold, who was experimented with at No. 8 in two internationals, now reverts to his accustomed role at lock. He, therefore, remains untested and has the considerable task of securing *the middle-of-the-line* possession which, hitherto, has been negligible for Wales.

There has been criticism of the Welsh style, although what style exactly, I am not altogether certain. There can be no such debate until Wales can get their hands sufficiently and regularly on the ball. In neither of the first two matches has this been the case. The Wales priority is to find ways and means to move forward and not play, as they have done so far, on their heels; their's has been a knee-jerking reaction game. Have they got it in them, at last, to take the game to the opposition?

TODAY'S TEAMS AT CARDIFF

Wales			Ireland	
P H Thorburn* (Neath)	15	Full back	J E Staples (London Irish)	15
I C Evans (Llanelli)	14	Right wing	S P Geoghegan (London Irish)	14
M G Ring (Cardiff)	13	Right centre	B J Mullin (Blackrock College)	13
I S Gibbs (Neath)	12	Left centre	D M Curtis (London Irish)	12
S P Ford (Cardiff)	11	Left wing	D J Clarke (Dolphin)	11
N R Jenkins (Pontypridd)	10	Stand off	B A Smith (Leicester)	10
C J Bridges (Neath)	9	Scrum half	R Saunders* (London Irish)	9
M Griffiths (Cardiff)	1	Prop	J J Fitzgerald (Young Munster)	1
K H Phillips (Neath)	2	Hooker	S J Smith (Ballymena)	2
J D Davies (Neath)	3	Prop	D C Fitzgerald (Lansdowne)	3
E W Lewis (Llanelli)	6	Flanker	P M Matthews (Wanderers)	6
G D Llewellyn (Neath)	4	Lock	M J Galwey (Shannon)	4
P Arnold (Swansea)	5	Lock	B J Rigney (Greystones)	5
M S Morris (Neath)	7	Flanker	G F Hamilton (NIFC)	7
P T Davies (Llanelli)	8	No 8	B F Robinson (Ballymena)	8

*Captain

Referee: D J Bishop (New Zealand)

*Captain

REPLACEMENTS: 16 R N Jones (Swansea), 17 D W Evans (Cardiff), 18 A Clement (Swansea), 19 K Waters (Newbridge), 20 B R Williams (Neath), 21 A J Carter (Newport)

REPLACEMENTS: 16 K J Murphy (Constitution), 17 V J G Cunningham (St Mary's College), 18 A C Rolland (Blackrock College), 19 N P Mannion (Lansdowne), 20 G F Halpin (Wanderers), 21 T J Kingston (Dolphin)

CARDIFF DETAILS

● Wales and Ireland have met on 93 occasions, of which Wales have won 56 — *including the game in Wellington during the 1987 World* Cup — and Ireland 32. But the Irish have won the last three games in Cardiff.

● Of today's team, Brendan Mullin and Philip Matthews appeared in those three Irish victories; Mullin, who wins his 35th cap today, requires one try to equal the Irish record of 14 held by George Stephenson. Eleven of the Irish side have never played at the Arms Park.

● Paul Thorburn, the Welsh captain, has scored 288 points in his 34 *appearances — including 11 in his* first game against Ireland in 1986, at Lansdowne Road, and the touchline goal kick which won Wales the triple crown in Dublin in 1988.

● Steve Ford, the Cardiff wing, scored a try on his international debut against Ireland last season — a match in which five tries were scored and only one kick, a conversion.

Amateur ethics divide the hemispheres

By DAVID MILLER

THE unilateral intransigence on the amateur regulations by Dudley Wood, the secretary of the Rugby Football Union (RFU), if pursued to the bitter end, could lead to a break in rugby between northern and southern hemispheres. Most disturbing of all for those in the England camp with a rational and liberal outlook is that there are some members of the RFU's 57-strong committee who would gladly join a Gadarene throng of reactionaries, championed by Wood.

That view, I would hasten to stress, is mine and not that of Captain Michael Pearey, the RFU president. Yet Pearey, an eminently caring official who is as anxious as any to preserve the values of rugby's ethos, is worried stiff at the division of opinion, not only between committee and players, but among committee members, that beset the international scene.

England go in to the Calcutta Cup match today with international rugby veering towards the kind of ideological split that in 1895 led to the formation, by 22 rebel clubs, of the Northern Rugby Union, *later to become* the Rugby League. Pearey, a traditionalist attempting to accommodate the realities of contemporary life, is in no doubt of the dangers.

"We don't want confrontation between players and the committee," he said when discussing the crisis this week. "But if we were to continue *without moderation*, we could end up playing no one but Ireland." Pearey considers that if the southern-hemisphere nations push too far towards professionalism, a split could become a possibility.

The reactionary intolerance of Wood towards minor issues of relatively harmless "material" gain — such as the refusal to allow the sponsors' clothing vouchers associated with the player of the month award by *Rugby News — is likely to* precipitate a situation in which, confronted by England squad disunity and refusal by the International Board to restrain commercial licence by New Zealand, Wood himself might have to resign.

"The strength of feeling on all sides is enormous," Pearey said, looking vainly about him like someone at the North Pole hoping to thumb a taxi. "I'm trying to steer a course to avoid the rocks." His years in the Navy, and his own inherent honesty, may prove insufficient to enable him to do so. It is clearly an absurdity, for instance, when Save and Prosper, *whose most recent sponsorship* of the RFU amounts to nearly £1 million, are allowed to put a mere £1,000 in to the players' pool for the use of photographs that they wish to use on a sponsored shuttle bus service for spectators.

It is Pearey's view that the banned leisure-wear advertisement for today's match programme, featuring four England players, was a legitimate "permitted activity" for material benefit.

Can Pearey, in the near-impossible position of having constitutionally only a year's office, resist the seemingly irresistible? "I recognise that players make a huge commitment in time and effort," he said. "The RFU's view point, before last year's IB meeting [on the amateur regulations] was that money going in to players' pockets must come from outside the game, and that money generated *by* the game must go back in to the game."

An absolute application of that principle would mean the players *could receive nothing*: their individual commercial appeal to sponsors and the media exists only because they conspicuously play rugby. However, the flexible interpretation permitted by last year's IB ruling means, as I suggested at the time, that players can in effect be paid for playing, merely by turning up after the match at a sponsor's tent: if the national union is compliant.

It is an age, as Pearey says, when there is more take than give all round; and that if New Zealand are allowed to pay players for speaking at rugby dinners — or the sponsor's tent after the match? — then "this does alter the relation the players have to the game." The New Zealand view is that only by letting players speak at dinners *for reward can the lower level of* playing-membership momentum within the game be maintained. And what if the opportunist South Africans come back in to the fold?

"We want to maintain the *ethos of the game,*" Pearey said. "The RFU has not had the determination to follow through allegations of irregularities [in the past]. How you get it back, I don't know."

The history of other sports *suggests rugby union can never* do so. The truth that Wood and others must recognise is that *amateurism* is a state of mind: it is impossible to oblige someone to be an amateur. I know this all too well, as one who played for *the most amateur of all football* teams, Pegasus, in an environment dominated by sham amateurs.

The Football Association finally had the sense, as did cricket, to abolish the amateur definition. Those good enough to be paid — including gentlemen amateurs such as Peter May — were paid while the majority remained as amateur as ever. The same happened in tennis and athletics, disarming hypocrisy.

Big-match amateurism for the RFU was possible in the era dominated by officers and gentlemen, guaranteed a sinecure in the City; but wholly honourable policemen, postmen, and insurance clerks cannot be expected to turn a blind eye to the millions pouring in to *the RFU's till*. The sun has set on the era in which Captain Pearey and I grew up, and is now no more than nostalgia.

The spectator sport of senior rugby, given massive commercialisation through sponsorship and television, cannot hold back the tide of player expectation. Bad news for Wood and the rest is that their Victorian castle stands on an eroding cliff face that would not, I suspect, be protected even by *the law courts*.

The need for practice

OF THE club programme attenuated today by the weather and *the international* programme, those most anxious to play will be the quarter-finalists in the Pilkington Cup, seeking exercise before next weekend's ties (David Hands writes). Among them are Nottingham, who are due to play West Hartlepool at 12.30 but have a provisional date next Tuesday with Rotherham.

West Hartlepool will bring the Evans brothers to Beeston — *Owen is a regular on the right* wing and Glyn comes in on the left in the absence of David Cooke, the country's leading try scorer. Orrell, who have a Lancashire Cup match with Broughton Park tomorrow, have Charles Cusani available once more after five months of inactivity caused by damaged knee ligaments.

● A memorial service for John Currie, the Harlequins and England lock who died in December, will be held at St Marylebone Parish Church next Thursday (2.30). The address *will be given* by David Marques, who played in partnership with Currie in so many club and international matches.

● Les Peard, the Castleton referee, will officiate in England's *last international of the season*, against France at Twickenham on March 16. His Welsh colleague, Derek Bevan, handled Ireland's game with France earlier this month so there will be no opportunity for Clive Norling this season after his return from illness.

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Former club's visit provides one Portsmouth footballer with an irresistible challenge

The spur for Stevens to succeed

By Clive White

FA CUP

ONE Portsmouth player who, for sure, will have no problem raising his game to cope with the threat posed by Tottenham Hotspur in today's FA Cup fifth round tie at Fratton Park is Gary Stevens. Not just because he is a former Spur, but because there is nothing that Stevens likes more than a challenge.

It must seem to Stevens, sometimes, that his career has been one long challenge, ever since he was rejected by Bobby Robson as a 16-year-old at Ipswich Town. But it is surgeons, rather than football managers, that Stevens — who will be 29 next month — has spent much of his time, in fact too much of it, proving wrong.

Three well documented injuries to both knees and his spine cost him a total of eighteen months' inactivity during the prime years of his football life and, despite courageous comebacks, foreshortened his career at the very top. Even today's appearance was temporarily threatened by a calf injury.

"I think I'm a lot stronger person for the traumas I've been through," Stevens said. "Having said that I wish I'd never darn well been through it. Because I believe that if I hadn't, I would be lining up for Tottenham on Saturday against Portsmouth rather than the other way around. I also believe that I could very easily have still been involved in the England set-up."

Regrets there may be, but Stevens, nicknamed "Gas" long before the arrival at White Hart Lane of a certain other person who goes by that name, has always tried not to dwell on the past. If he reflects at all, it is on his good fortune; like the electricity shares he sold at a 50 per cent profit. It does not bear thinking about that he could have made 100 per cent profit had he waited.

"It's only when I sit down and think about it, the players I played with, the stadiums I played in, the clubs I played for, the occasions I've been involved in, the things I've achieved — which I've worked hard for — I realise that I've been very fortunate."

Oddly enough, despite the injuries, Stevens could quite easily have been playing for Tottenham this afternoon what with all the problems they have been experiencing recently in defence. He could have stayed at White Hart Lane for another season; the club would have been obliged to keep him on since they wanted money for his transfer.

"But I feel it was a positive move leaving Tottenham and I don't regret it. Some players say 'I'm on a binding contract, I don't mind if I sit in the reserves.' But to me, yes, of course it's your living and you're trying to secure your future but you have to temper that with the fact that you're in the game because you want to get on."

It was that desire to succeed that drove Stevens on, forcing the same Robson who had rejected him to form a different opinion when he later became England manager. Within 12 months, Stevens had made his debut, for Brighton, in the first division at the age of 17.

When Brighton reached the FA Cup final against Manchester United in 1983, the television viewers voted him man of the final for his Herculean performance in holding the Brighton defence together in the absence of Steve Foster for the first game.

"I couldn't put a foot wrong in that first match if I'd tried. The trouble was that when I joined Tottenham they expected me to play like that week in, week out."

Tottenham bought him in order to cure their long standing weakness in central defence (it still exists) but when it persisted they moved him into midfield: Stevens, the utility player, had been born.

"I don't think Tottenham ever knew where to play me. I don't think anybody does. It's opened doors for me and got me games but it's meant that I haven't had a true identity."

After Stevens had performed effectively in three different positions in one match for England after coming on as substitute, Robson was obliged to offer a reassessment of the player, telling him: "You're useful, you are."

It was because of his versatility that Stevens, who was capped seven times, was taken to the Mexico World Cup finals. "Not even someone like Ray Clemence has played in the World Cup finals. I achieved quite a lot while I was at Tottenham (a Uefa Cup winners' medal and another FA Cup losers' medal) but I feel that I fell short of what I was capable of, mainly due to the injuries."

Stevens concedes that he was not quite as quick as he was but that that was only evident in a struggling team.

Yet the side is dotted with players of first division experience, like Mark Chamberlain, Steve Wigley, Colin Clarke, Warren Aspinall, Graeme Hogg and Warren Neill. The trouble is that they are playing in the second division and are not ideally suited, Stevens believed, to meet its unsubtle demands for success.

Today's tie, before a sell-out crowd of 26,000, gives Pompey the chance to prove that theory which will be spearheaded by Guy Whittingham, the leading goalscorer in the entire competition with seven goals. Another Guy, by the name of Butters, can only wish that he was given such a chance to prove himself.

But the former Spur is being kept out of the team by you know who. Just to complete the irony, Stevens's partner in central defence is Hogg, the man who, as a Manchester United player, was responsible, albeit accidentally, for the tackle which first landed Stevens on the operating table — another good reason for not looking back in anger.

Feeling fit and raring to go: Stevens (right) in training for his biggest day at Fratton Park

GOLF

Normal service resumed with Norman in front

From Mitchell Platts, Golf Correspondent, Melbourne

IT WAS business as usual for Greg Norman yesterday. With one of his customary charges, he captured the halfway lead in the Australian Masters with a second-round 67 here.

Yet even Norman admitted being impressed by the four birdies and one eagle with which he launched an inward half of 30. "It was pretty stout stuff," he said. "I can't remember a better nine holes except perhaps in the last round of the Open Championship at Royal Troon two years back."

The frustration of failing to take advantage of several chances early in the round tested Norman's temperament. At the 9th, he hit a two-iron into trees and was unable to salvage par.

However, he composed himself at the 10th. The hole measures a little more than 480 yards — a vulnerable par five to an average driver let alone one of Norman's awesome power — but a bunker eats into the fairway on the left.

The Australian has been known to satisfy the appetite of such hazards but, by taking a three-wood, he showed the bunker the healthy respect it deserved. It required only another three-wood to the green, where two putts gave him a birdie.

He pitched to two feet for another at the 11th, hit a seven-iron to 15 feet for a two at the 12th and a gorgeous eight-iron to within 18 inches at the 13th. There was still the *coup de grâce*; a one-iron struck from 280 yards, leaving him to hole from six feet for an eagle at the 14th.

Norman had a nine-under-par halfway aggregate of 137 and moved into the third round one shot ahead of his compatriots, Jeff Woodland and Michael Clayton.

LEADING SECOND-ROUND SCORES (Australia unless stated): 137: G Norman, 70, 67. 138: J Woodland, 71, 67; M Clayton, 67, 71. 139: P Senior, 68, 71; R Davis, 71, 68. 140: P O'Malley, 72, 68. 141: D DeJong (US), 71, 70; F Nobilo (NZ), 73, 68. 142: B Shearer, 68, 74; M Bradley (US), 71, 71; M Ferguson, 72, 70. Other scores: 145: C Parry, 76, 69; B Ogle, 72, 73. 147: C Patton (US), 73, 74; G Turner (NZ), 73, 74; S Bennett (GB), 74, 73. 148: M Harwood, 73, 75. 153: B Lane (GB), 77, 76. 154: W Grady, 74, 80. 155: J Rystrom (Swe), 78, 77.

● PHOENIX: Russell Weir, of Scotland, the leader of the Tartan Tour Order of Merit last season, produced a flawless four-under-par 68 in the third round of the Ping World Pro-Am at McCormick Ranch here on Thursday (Patricia Davies writes). It left him in third place on 213.

LEADING THIRD-ROUND SCORES: 210: M Nicolette (US), 75, 64, 71. 211: B Cameron (Sundridge Park), 69, 72, 70. 213: R Weir (Cowal), 71, 74, 68. 216: B Waites (Notts), 73, 72, 71; P Carmon (Huddersfield), 74, 71, 71; L Mancour (US), 72, 75, 69.

SNOOKER

A champion with nothing to lose

By Steve Acteson

OF THE 12 most important titles in snooker, only three lie outside the clutches of the world champion, Stephen Hendry, who has claimed six, or his closest rival, Jimmy White.

Of the remainder, the European Open was held by John Parrott — who then dropped it by losing in the qualifiers — the Benson and Henson Irish Masters is the only title in the possession of Steve Davis and the £400,000 Pearl Assurance British Open, which begins in Derby tomorrow is in the custody of the rather more anonymous figure of Bob Chaperon.

The world No. 26, from Canada, amazed everybody, especially Alex Higgins, his opponent in the final, by winning his first title, but Chaperon is the first to admit that he is not favourite to do so again.

At least Chaperon, who begins his defence tomorrow with a third-round meeting with the Hong Kong professional, Franky Chan, can claim that while he has won this title, Hendry has never done so. "They can never take that away from me," he said. "Whenever you look in the record books at the British Open, my name will stand out.

"It might be different if I was going to Derby as the firm favourite but I'm certainly not that, so there is no pressure on me and why should I worry? I have had a diabolical season. I might be the champion but really I've got nothing to lose."

TOMORROW'S ORDER OF PLAY: Third round (best of nine frames): 2pm: J Wattana (Thai) v D Roe (Eng), A Robidoux (Can) v K Doherty (Eire); R Chaperon (Can) v S Chan (HK), D Taylor (N Ire) v G Natale (Can). 7.30pm: J White (Eng) v J McLaughlin (N Ire), A Knowles (Eng) v J Prince (N Ire); D O'Kane (NZ) v B Gollan (Can); A Meo (Eng) v J Smith (Eng).

Everton eager to make amends

By Ian Ross

EVERTON'S disappointment that the FA Cup fifth-round tie with Liverpool at Anfield has been delayed 24 hours to accomodate a television broadcast is a measure of the progress that has been achieved in the 15 weeks since Howard Kendall returned to the club as manager.

Last weekend's visit to the same venue for a League fixture may have ended in defeat but the purposeful nature of Everton's performance, coupled with the flattering reviews which highlighted an obvious lack of good fortune, left Kendall and several of his senior players with a feeling of impatience.

"We wish we were playing them again tomorrow," Kendall said last Saturday. Again yesterday as he pondered the game this feeling of unusual confidence again permeated his conversation "There has been a bubble about the place all week," he said.

"Because it means a lot to them, players normally feel a bit down after a defeat in a derby match but I have not sensed that this time, possibly because we are going into another, even more important, game so soon afterwards.

"If we had been overrun for 90 minutes last week then we would possibly be going into this fixture with some apprehension but, after analysing the game, I do not believe that to be the case. We have not won any of the last seven games against Liverpool so it would be nice to give our supporters something to shout about," he added.

Although Kendall is aware of Liverpool's desire to repeat the League and Cup double of five years ago, he believes tomorrow's game to be of far greater significance to Everton.

"I believe it to be that little bit more important for us. That is how I read it but Kenny Dalglish might disagree," he said. "We managers tend to have statements ready just in case our team is knocked out of the Cup.

"I just hope that Kenny will be saying, 'We can now concentrate on the League' after Sunday's game. Although the season does still have a long way to go I would not be able to say that," he added.

Both managers have delayed announcing their starting line-ups until shortly before kick-off but Dalglish is expected to recall Rush and McMahon, who both missed last Saturday's game because of injury.

Hinchcliffe's return to the Everton side at left back is not assured despite his recovery from a knee injury.

Tomorrow's game will be the fifteenth meeting of the clubs in the FA Cup, Liverpool having won nine of the ties.

"I said last week that the result was more important than was the performance and the same will be true on Sunday," Dalglish said.

WEEKEND TEAM NEWS

FA Cup
Fourth round
Leeds United v Arsenal

For this third replay Rocastle is poised to replace Limpar, who has damaged ankle ligaments, though Arsenal also include Hillier and Cole, a teenage forward, in their squad of 14. Campbell is expected to deputise for Groves, who has a broken rib. For Leeds Snodin and Whitlow standby to take over from Haddock, who has a calf injury.

Fifth round
Cambridge U v Sheff W

Cambridge, attempting to set a club record of 15 games without defeat, name the same squad as in the previous round. Wednesday should be unchanged despite including Mackenzie, a new signing, in their squad.

Notts Co v Manchester C

Paris, a new Notts County signing, makes his debut at left back in place of Thomas, who is suspended. Lund, who is on the transfer list, is recalled as Regis is cup-tied. City are unchanged.

Portsmouth v Tottenham

Walsh damaged an ankle in training yesterday and with Stewart suspended Tottenham may field one of two young strikers, Houghton and Gray. Howells is again ruled out by injury but Gascoigne has been declared fit. Stevens has passed a fitness test on a calf injury to take his place in an unchanged side.

West Ham v Crewe A

Crewe are confident that Jasper will be fit to play sweeper, but await tests to Hignett, Lennon and the Upton Park pitch. West Ham are unchanged.

First division
Chelsea v Wimbledon

Chelsea are without Townsend and Stuart, who are ill, and Hall, who is injured. Nicholas returns to the squad after a three months. Wimbledon, for whom Fashanu has recovered from a toe injury, are at full strength.

Crystal Palace v QPR

Thorn is back for Palace after suspension. Rangers include Brevett, signed last week from Doncaster, and Wegerle in their squad.

Sunderland v Nottm F

Agboola could return after five months in place of the suspended Hardyman. Mooney, signed from Preston last week, makes his debut as Sunderland, without Ord, who is injured, dispense with their sweeper system. Forest are unchanged.

Tomorrow
FA Cup
Fifth round
Liverpool v Everton

Rush and McMahon have both been added to the Liverpool squad. Everton are likely to recall Hinchcliffe, after injury, in an otherwise unchanged team.

HOCKEY

Cannock pinning Cup ambitions on Ramu

By Sydney Friskin

SHANKER Ramu, a 20-year-old Malaysian international, is in the **Cannock** side for tomorrow's fourth-round Nationwide Anglia Cup match against **Canterbury** where the Polo Farm pitch has been cleared of snow and ice.

Ramu joined Cannock at the beginning of the season but has not played for them regularly. They are fourth from the bottom of the Poundstretcher national league table but their Cup hopes are high.

Bromley's league match today against **Cannock** was called off because of the state of the artificial turf pitch at Edenbridge, where Bromley's match with **Bourneville** in the fourth round of the Cup tomorrow is another victim.

Slough are hopeful that the artificial turf pitch at Wexham School will be declared playable for their Cup match against **Woking**. The **Reading** team to play **Cambridge University Wanderers** in the Cup match at Coldhams Common tomorrow includes David Phillips from the England Under-21 squad.

The **Bournemouth** Cup match against **Coventry and North Warwickshire** will go ahead at **Bournemouth**.

● Three goals each from Wendy Fraser and Ellen Murray saw Glasgow Western beat the title holders, Brandenburg Berlin, 6-5 in the opening rounds of the women's European clubs indoor championships in Amiens. Ipswich had to fight back from 5-4 down to beat Athletico Madrid 6-5.

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THE TIMES

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FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS' CUP: Quarter-finals: *Men:* Pop 84 Split (Yug) 91, Kingston 72 (*A Cunningham 20, M Clark 13, T Gordon 13*); Scavolini Pesaro (It) 93, Maccabi Tel Aviv 87; Bayer Leverkusen (Ger) 112, Limoges 101; Aris Salonika 93, Barcelona 110. *Women:* Arvika (Swe) 67, Saigar Zaragoza (Sp) 71; Sporting Athens 59, Cesena (It) 60; Astarac Mirande (Fr) 82, Elektrosila Leningrad 87.

Men

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Barcelona	9	8	1	839	718	17
Pop '84 Split	9	6	3	789	742	15
Aris Salonika	9	5	4	834	822	14
Scavolini Pesaro	9	5	4	832	804	14
B Leverkusen	9	5	4	848	856	14
Maccabi Tel Aviv	9	4	5	785	794	13
Kingston	9	2	7	725	805	11
Limoges	9	1	8	774	866	10

Women

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Cesena	8	6	2	686	560	14
Leningrad	8	6	2	750	700	14
Arvika	8	6	2	683	636	14
Astarac Mirande	8	2	6	683	684	10
Saigar Zaragoza	8	2	6	806	899	10
Sporting Athens	8	2	6	571	678	10

KORAC CUP: Quarter-final, second leg: Real Madrid 74, Phonola Caserta (It) 58 (agg: 153-150).

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Miami Heat 141, Denver Nuggets 112; Chicago Bulls 102, New York Knicks 92; Seattle SuperSonics 102, Orlando Magic 90; Houston Rockets 129, Washington Bullets 117; Detroit Pistons 102, Milwaukee Bucks 94; Phoenix Suns 106, San Antonio Spurs 97; Boston Celtics 128, Golden State Warriors 112; Sacramento Kings 88, Philadelphia 76ers 81.

DOBBING CUP (girls under-17): Scotland 50, England 52 (at Musselburgh).

BOWLS

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Midland Counties 149, Lincolnshire 101.

FOOTBALL

LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Premier division: *Dundalk 3, Bohemians 0.*

CRICKET

SHEFFIELD SHIELD: Adelaide: New South Wales 219-7 (S Small 75) v South Australia. Melbourne: Western Australia 256-2 (M Lavender 118, G Wood 106 not out) v Victoria. Hobart: Queensland 276-3 (G Hick 88 not out, S Law 59 not out, Peter Cantrell 56) v Tasmania.

TOUR MATCH: Crusaders (Melbourne) 68 (R Evans 5-9, J Jones 4-27). Club Cricket Conference 69-4. CCC won by 6 wkts.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Pittsburgh Penguins 5, New York Islanders 2; New Jersey Devils 3, Winnipeg Jets 3 (OT); Chicago Black Hawks 2, Quebec Nordiques 1 (OT); Los Angeles Kings 4, Edmonton Oilers 2; St Louis Blues 3, Vancouver Canucks 2.

HOCKEY

PIZZA EXPRESS LONDON LEAGUE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Surbiton	10	10	0	0	47	4	30
Hampstead & W	10	9	1	0	33	9	28
O Kingstonians	10	9	0	1	57	8	27
Oxford Univ	10	6	0	4	23	16	18
Dulwich	9	6	0	3	12	7	19
Cambridge Univ	9	5	1	3	17	15	16
Blackheath	9	4	2	3	13	11	14
Wimbledon	9	4	2	3	11	11	14
Purley	10	3	2	5	17	15	11
Cheam	9	3	1	5	12	22	10
Weybridge H	10	3	0	7	10	28	9
Beckenham	9	2	2	5	12	30	8
London Univ	10	1	3	6	16	31	6
Spencer	9	1	2	6	9	23	5
Tulse Hill	9	1	1	7	5	20	4
Maidenhead	10	0	1	9	10	34	1

● Does not include Mid-Surrey, who have withdrawn from first XI league

BOXING

AYUTHAYA, Thailand: WBC flyweight championship: Muangchai Kittikasem (Thai) bt Sot Chitalada (Thai, holder), rsc 6th rnd.

SKIING

LAKE PLACID: Freestyle world championship: Men: Moguls: 1, E Grospiron (Fr); 2, B Brandt (Switz); 3, C Martin (US); 4, S Shupletsov (USSR); 5, O Allamand (Fr); 6, J Paajaru (Swe).

LES ARCS, France: Speed World Cup: 1, C Basle (Fr), 210.031kph; 2, L Sistach (Fr), 209.671; 3, K Kazunga (Japan), 205.629.

ICE SKATING

MINNEAPOLIS: United States figure skating championships: Men: Compulsory figures: 1, C Heath; 2, M Weiss; 3, G Siruno. Women: Original programme: 1, K Yamaguchi, 0.5 factored placements; 2, T Harding, 1.0; 3, N Kerrigan, 1.5. Original dance: 1, A Sargent and R Witherby, 0.6; 2, E Punsalan and J Swallow, 1.2; 3, J Miley and M Verlich, 1.8. Overall placings (compulsories and original): 1, Sargent and Witherby, 1.0; 2, Punsalan and Swallow, 2.4; 3, Miley and Verlich, 2.6.

NORDIC SKIING

VAL DI FIEMME, Italy: World championships: Men: Cross-country relay (4 x 10km): 1, Norway, 1hr 39min 47.3sec; 2, Sweden, 1:41:36.1; 3, Finland, 1:42:12.0; 4, Italy, 1:42:26.2; 5, Soviet Union, 1:42:38.5; 6, Austria, 1:42:53.9. Other placing: 17, Britain (D Beaum, M Palmer, M Croasdale, E Nicoll), 1:55:15.4.

Medals

	G	S	B
Norway	5	2	2
Soviet Union	3	1	2
Austria	2	1	1
Sweden	1	4	1
Yugoslavia	1	—	—
Finland	—	2	1
Italy	—	1	2
France	—	1	—
Germany	—	—	2
Japan	—	—	1

GOLF

SAN DIEGO: Men's tournament: Leading first-round scores (US unless stated): 65: B Crenshaw. 66: P Mickelson, A Bean, L Hinkle, H Sutton, M Standly, B Bryant. 67: C Pavin, S Jones, S Pate, D A Weibring, S Simpson, B Gardner, N Price (Zim), J McGovern.

RUGBY LEAGUE

SILK CUT CHALLENGE CUP: First round: Keighley 38, Runcorn 4.

RUGBY UNION

CLUB MATCHES: Postponed: Abertillery v Moseley, Maesteg v London Irish, Northampton v Coventry, Newbridge v Bath, Penarth v Pontypool, Pontypridd v Ebbw Vale, Wasps v Melrose.

SNOOKER

NEWPORT: Regal Welsh professional championship: Semi-final: M Bennett bt A Chappel, 9-5. Final: D Morgan leads Bennett, 5-2.

TENNIS

PHILADELPHIA: United States men's indoor championship: Third round: M Stich (Ger) bt C Adams (US), 6-4, 6-4; B Gilbert (US) bt P Haarhuis (Neth), 7-6, 6-1; P Sampras (US) bt M Washington (US), 6-3, 7-6; I Lendl (Cz) bt G Muller (SA), 7-6, 6-3; J McEnroe (US) bt W Masur (Aus), 7-6, 6-4.

BRUSSELS: Men's indoor tournament: Second round: A Cherkasov (USSR) bt C Saceanu (Ger), 6-4, 6-2; S Edberg (Swe) bt P Cash (Aus), 3-6, 6-1, 6-4. Quarter-finals: Cherkasov bt A Chesnokov (USSR), 7-5, 6-1; G Forget (Fr) bt M Rosset (Switz), 6-2, 7-5; Edberg bt J Hlasek (Switz), 6-1, 6-2.

CHICAGO: Women's tournament: Second round: H Sukova (Cz) bt K Rinaldi (US), 6-2, 6-2; A Frazier (US) bt B Schultz (Neth), 6-3, 6-4; Z Garrison (US) bt R Fairbank-Nideffer (US), 6-2, 6-2. Quarter-final: M Navratilova (US) bt A Smith (US), 6-1, 6-2.

AURORA, Colorado: Women's tournament: Second round: L McNeil (US) bt J Shriver (US), 6-2, 3-6, 6-2; A Leand (US) bt E Reinach (SA), 4-6, 6-4, 6-1; P Louie-Harper (US) bt A Temesvari (Hun), 6-4, 4-6, 6-1; S Sloane (US) bt A Henricksson (US), 6-3, 6-3.

LINZ, Austria: Women's tournament: Second round: M Maruska (Austria) bt B Paulus (Austria), 6-3, 6-3; C Kohde-Kilsch (Ger) bt P Ritter (Austria), 6-4, 5-7, 6-3.

YACHTING

PERTH: Australia Cup: Round-robin qualifying series: Seventh round: C Law (GB) bt L Mead (HK); J Bank (Den) bt T Peponnet (Fr); G Lucas (Aus) bt P Gilmour (Aus); B Pace (Fr) bt J Holder (Aus); R Davis (NZ) bt R Coutts (NZ). Eighth round: Bank bt Law, Gilmour bt Coutts, Davis bt Lucas, Peponnet bt Pace, Mead bt Holder. Ninth round: Law bt Pace, Peponnet bt Mead, Bank bt Holder, Lucas bt Coutts, Gilmour bt Davis. Final placings: 1, Davis, 8 wins; equal 2, Lucas and Gilmour, 7; 4, Law, 6; 5, Bank, 5; 6, Pace, 4; 7, Coutts, 3; equal 8, Peponnet and Mead, 2; 10, Holder, 1. Final: Davis v Lucas.

IN BRIEF

Larrousse threat

ESPO Larrousse, the French Formula One motor racing team, has threatened to pull out of this year's world championship if it has to pre-qualify for grand prix races.

Fisa, the governing body of motor racing, said the team's 1990 performances, which would have enabled it to enter official practice, could not count because Larrousse's specifications claimed that the car was built by themselves when it was, in fact, constructed by the English firm, Lola.

STUDENT SPORT: Norway has become the second country to withdraw from the Winter University Games in Sapporo, Japan, next month.

BOXING: Johnny Nelson, of Sheffield, makes the first defence of his European cruiserweight title against Yves Monsieur, of Belgium, in Mansfield on March 12.

● Sot Chitalada, of Thailand, lost his WBC flyweight title to his compatriot, Muangchai Kittikasem, yesterday.

SKIING: Two races have been rescheduled in the men's World Cup programme, with a slalom now taking place in Opdal, Norway, on February 26, and a downhill in Lake Louise, Canada, on March 15.

TABLE TENNIS: Carl Prean, ranked No. 13 in Europe, has been made the top seed for the English national championships at Stourbridge next month. He is due to meet Chen Xinhua, the former world No. 4, in the semi-finals.

SQUASH RACKETS: Gill Clark and Gillian Gowers, of England, have risen to No. 4 in the latest world doubles rankings

RUGBY LEAGUE

Prospects are good for Great Britain

By KEITH MACKLIN

WHILE the weather has played havoc with the Great Britain training plans, and changes have had to be made because of injury and suspension, Malcolm Reilly's charges should not experience too much difficulty in beating France today at Headingley.

The Great Britain players trained at Headingley yesterday on a pitch protected by undersoil heating, and after their overwhelming 45-10 victory at Perpignan, they will have few qualms about the French challenge.

Nevertheless, it will be remembered that in the corresponding fixture last season the French scored a memorable victory against a weakened side which was caught cold and apparently complacent.

Unfortunately for the French, their spirits have been demoralised by thrashings from the touring Australian team and by Britain, and this afternoon they will be without one of the architects of last year's victory, the half back, Gilles Dumas, who is injured. Also out of the side for various reasons are influential players in Delaunay and Divit. Indeed, the stand-off half position normally occupied by Dumas goes to Moliner, normally a back-row forward.

Reilly had to make a further change yesterday when the Wigan forward, Denis Betts, pulled out through injury. Richard Eyres, of Widnes, will take his place.

GREAT BRITAIN: S Hampson (Wigan); P Eastwood (Hull), D Powell (Sheffield), P Loughlin (St Helens), M Offiah (Widnes); G Schofield (Leeds), S Edwards (Wigan); A Dannatt (Hull), L Jackson (Hull), A Platt (Wigan), R Eyres (Widnes), K Fairbank (Bradford Northern), E Hanley (Wigan, captain).

FRANCE: C Auroy (XIII Catalan); A Bouzer (Toulouse), D Fraisse (Carcassonne), P Chamorin (St Esteve), C Pons (St Gaudens) or E Ramirez (Carcassonne); J Moliner (XIII Catalan), P Entat (Hull, captain), T Buttignol (St Esteve), T Valero (Lezignan), C Montgaillard (XIII Catalan), D Verdes (Villeneuve), D Cabestany (St Esteve), J-B Saumitou (Villeneuve). Referee: C McCallum (Australia).

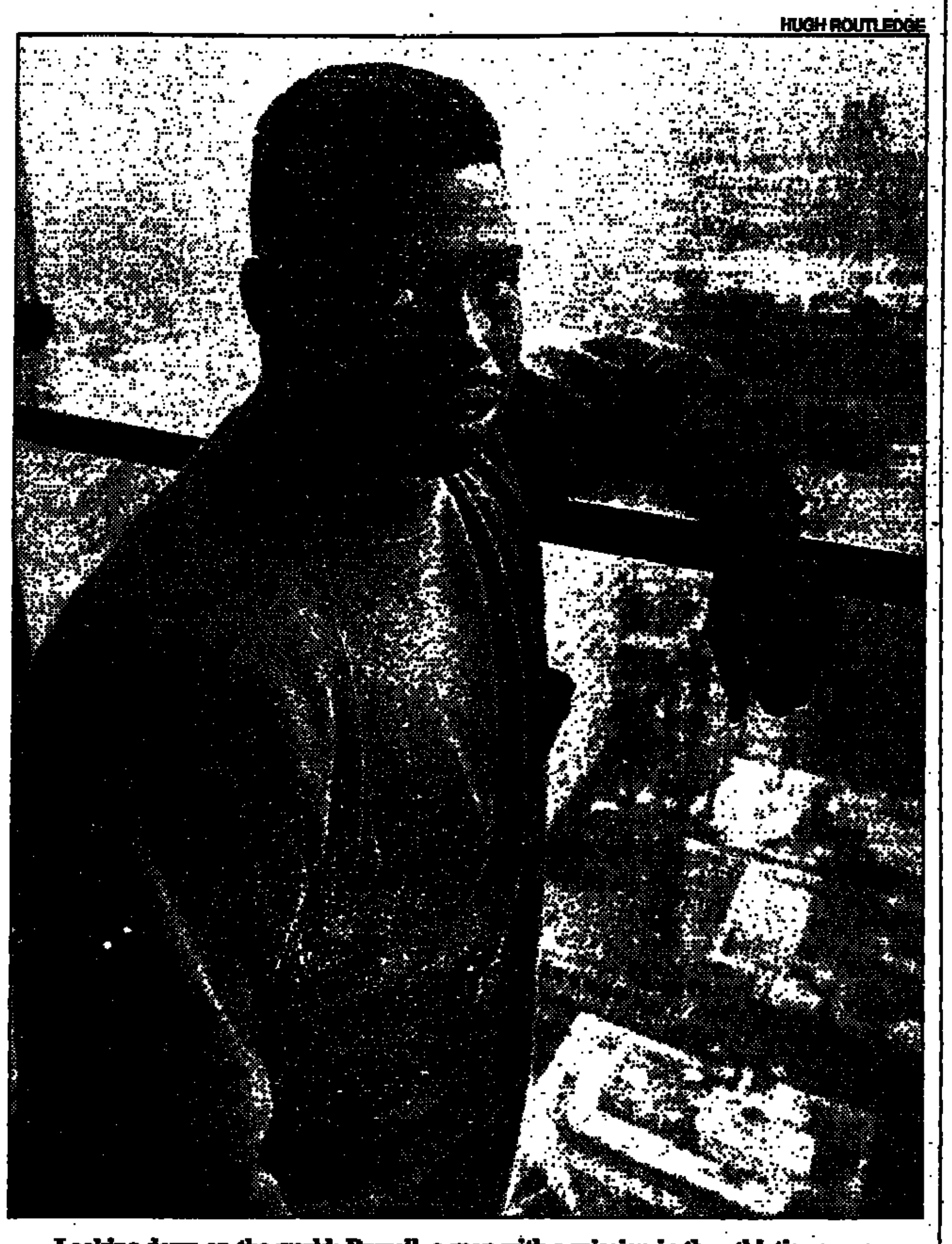
- The thaw should ensure that the first-round matches in the Silk Cup Challenge Cup will be completed tomorrow. However, the top game is a first-division championship game between Leeds and Widnes at Headingley.
- The championship game between St Helens and Hull, due to be played tomorrow, has been switched to Monday evening following the call-up of the Hull forward, Andy Dannatt, to the Great Britain squad.

Cosford's final indoor athletics meeting looks set to feature some low flying

Burrell on fast track to top

By DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

HUGH ROUTLEDGE



Looking down on the world: Burrell, a man with a mission in the athletics arena

LEROY Burrell held his thumb and forefinger an inch apart yesterday and offered his reaction to the 60 metres indoor world record he had set two days before. "There is a book this thick with records, they go all the time," he said. "If I go to Cosford on Sunday and lose what will the record mean?"

The importance of winning races, not breaking records, was stressed time and again by Burrell; he is here to beat Linford Christie in the Dairy Crest meeting at Cosford, just like he did in Stuttgart last weekend. The score is beginning to look one-sided. Their last five meetings have gone Burrell's way.

His record in Madrid on Wednesday came after he had tried once, succeeded, but was later informed that he had false-started. Burrell smiled when he was told. He enjoys what he is doing as much as we enjoy watching him. He tried again 30 minutes later and ran 6.48sec, still faster than anyone before. "I am not in that good a shape right now," he said yesterday. Which makes you wonder what is in store this summer.

Burrell has said before that four Olympic gold medals is "something I am shooting for". When he said so last summer, he added: "If I have a weak event, it's the long jump." It is being worked on in a hurry. He was, he said yesterday, *thinking* of four events at the world championships in Tokyo in August.

If four gold medals sounds like Carl Lewis revisited, listen to this. Burrell comes from Pennsylvania, where Lewis came from; Burrell competed for the University of Houston, where Lewis studied; Burrell runs for Santa Monica Track Club, Lewis's club; Burrell is managed by Joe Douglas, as is Lewis; Burrell is coached by Tom Tellez, likewise Lewis; Burrell studied Communications and Radio TV, which was Lewis's subject.

Once, at the Goodwill Games last summer, they appeared on the same podium preaching the same religion before running in the same event. One had a sneaking suspicion yesterday that comparisons are wearing thin. "I lot of people are making out that I'm a *protégé* of Carl's, but I have a coach who makes me feel assured," Burrell said. And, wait . . . Burrell is studying French. There is nothing about Lewis doing that.

Now Burrell, not Lewis, is the world's fastest man. Or perhaps we should say the world's fastest athlete. He accepted an invitation to compete in a made-for-American-television competition to find the world's fastest sportsman. And lost. To an American footballer. Darrell Green, a defensive back for the Washington Redskins, beat him, though, to be fair, it was Burrell's first race in helmet and pads.

Christie said on Thursday that defeat at Cosford would diminish the satisfaction of winning the 60 metres at the indoor world championships in Seville on March 8 because Burrell had said he would not be running. But Burrell may yet be there. He gave a good reason why he should not and one reason why he might.

First, the argument against. Christie take note. "Once its all over people are going to forget about the world indoor championships," Burrell said. "I want to get *mentally* and physically ready for the world [outdoor] championhips and I think that in doing that you should not be *thinking* about running in the world indoor championships in March."

And the argument for. "After Cosford I am going back to Houston to map out the season. Right now it does not include a stop in Seville, but if my coach tells me I'm doing it then I will go."

Christie will be hoping that, this time, Burrell does not want a rerun. There is less than an hour between the 60 metres and his next race, the 200 metres, in which Michael Johnson will be waiting with the second American punch. It will be the last fly-past of international talent in the old aircraft hangar. Christie will be hoping they do not fly too fast.

Whitcombe selection hope

ANDREA Whitcombe defends her English women's cross-country title at Arrowe Park, Birkenhead, today knowing that victory would make her the first athlete for 19 years to win successive titles. Rita Lincoln was the last to do so, in 1972, when Whitcombe was less than one year old (David Powell writes).

Last winter Whitcombe, then aged 18, became the second youngest winner in the long history of the championships and her main challengers now, Alison Wyeth, Sally Ellis, Lisa York and Sarah Rowell, will have to end an undefeated sequence of seven races if Whitcombe is to be unseated.

Whitcombe's victories include inter-counties and southern championship victories. She said yesterday that she was confident and pleased that British officials had opted to select a world championship team which leaves the onus on performances today, rather than rearrange the trial postponed last weekend.

"I feel I am in good shape," Whitcombe said. "It is better that this race should count because a trial later would be too close to the world championships." Rowell, the former British record holder in the marathon, is making a comeback in cross country after years of injury.

Goodbye to an old friend at RAF Cosford

By KEN LAWRENCE

HOW anyone can be in love with an aircraft hangar stuck in the middle of somewhere so remote that you need a navigator armed with a one inch to the mile Ordnance Survey map to find it is totally beyond me. However, it has to be recorded that the mourners will be out in force tomorrow when the last televised international athletics meeting is screened from RAF Cosford.

In this, the most unlikely of settings, the great names of athletics have, for a quarter of a century competed, set European and even world records and formed an appreciation society for the old hangar. Now Glasgow has *Kelvin Hall* and a new arena for indoor events is being built in Birmingham, Cosford is no longer to be used for international meetings.

Those who are not running, jumping or spectating at the Dairy Crest IAAF Invitation tomorrow afternoon but have enjoyed their affair with this ugly mistress these past 25 years, will no doubt join the last rites by turning to ITV (fully networked, live, exclusive and with absolute finality) from 5pm.

Nostalgia will be the order of the day. They will recall Mary Peters setting a world best in the 60 metres hurdles in 1970 and Seb Coe in 1983 leaving Peter Elliott two seconds adrift as "not even racing fit" he set an 800 metres record on boards against the United States. And then there was the controversial Zola Budd, from South Africa, in her vest of convenience.

They will of course all be hoping for Cosford to close the hangar doors with another world record. Jim Rosenthal, who has been covering events at Cosford for the past five years, since ITV won the athletics contract and presents tomorrow's programme, is wary about such forecasts.

"What we can guarantee is good competition among good athletes at genuine distances. We have become a little cagey about forecasting world records."

One man he will be applauding, whether or not he smashes a record, is Linford Christie. "I am an entertainer," Christie says, and he has provided entertainment. "He probably meets the two best athletes in the world at the moment at their distance — Leroy Burrell in the 60 metres and Michael Johnson who is almost untouchable in the 200 metres."

It is good news that Sky (on the Sports Channel) are to televise the whole of the Australia-West Indies matches. It is a pity that they will not be able to provide this feast to those with Sky dishes until April 8 — the date they hope to beam the Marco Polo service to the huge majority receiving the Astra satellite.

Eurosport offers live tennis from Stuttgart. There is live coverage from Tuesday until Sunday (*12.30pm until 5.30 or 6*) with highlights starting at 9pm.

SPORT ON TELEVISION
THE WEEK IN VIEW

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

Today: There can be no more satisfying afternoon viewing sport — for Englishmen, anyway — than to watch Scotland hammered at Twickenham as England march on to rugby's triple crown and the championship.

If Bill McLaren gets carried away on *Grandstand* (from 12.15pm, the game at 2.10) he is promised a big dig in the ribs by his summariser, Bill Beaumont.

Also on BBC1 (10.50pm), *Match of the Day* features three FA Cup ties with Leeds v Arsenal replay likely to be among them.

Tomorrow: Will it be farewell Liverpool or Everton in today's FA Cup fifth round at Anfield? *Match of the Day* (BBC1, 5pm) brings the whole of this Merseyside derby live. It is certainly farewell to Cosford on ITV (5pm).

Monday: BBC have to wait a long time to get into the football action each season but once the FA Cup comes around their vessel is overflowing. Recorded replay action is at 10.10pm. Sports Channel (7.30) for live coverage Norwich v Manchester United.

Tuesday: Indoor bowls world championships from Preston: BBC1, 2.15 and 4.00pm, and the $1 million indoor tennis from Stuttgart (Eurosport) 12.30pm and 9pm.

Wednesday: Sportsnight (BBC1 10pm): Cup replay action, the world indoor bowls and a profile of would be heavyweight champion, Lennox Lewis.

Thursday: The start of what should be a fascinating six part series on the bicycle. (BBC1, 10.10pm). Tonight the Tour de France.

Friday: Channel 4's splendid instructive series on skiing continues (8pm). But Helen Rollason has the best of the day in *Sport on Friday* (BBC2 2.20-5.30pm). She presents bowls indoor hockey and an FA Cup round-up.

A GUIDE TO THE WEEKEND FIXTURES

3.0 unless stated

FOOTBALL

FA Cup
Fourth round, third replay
Leeds Utd v Arsenal

Fifth round
Cambridge Utd v Sheffield Wed
Notts County v Man City (all ticket)
Portsmouth v Tottenham
West Ham v Crewe

Barclays League
First division
Chelsea v Wimbledon
Crystal Palace v QPR
Sunderland v Nottm Forest

Second division
Barnsley v Newcastle
Blackburn v West Bromwich
Bristol R v Watford
Hull v Bristol C
Millwall v Plymouth
Oldham v Port Vale
Oxford v Charlton
Wolves v Leicester .... P

Third division
Bolton v Grimsby
Bournemouth v Birmingham
Brentford v Exeter
Chester v Swansea .... P
Huddersfld v Preston
L Orient v Wigan Ath .... P
Mansfield v Rotherham .... P
Stoke v Bury
Tranmere v Fulham

Fourth division
Blackpool v Doncaster
Carlisle v Rochdale
Darlington v Lincoln .... P
Halifax v Burnley
Maidstone v Aldershot .... P
Peterborough v Hereford .... P
Scarborough v Hartlepool
Scunthorpe v Wrexham
Walsall v Chesterfield

GM Vauxhall Conference
Altrincham v Merthyr
Barrow v Barnet
Cheltenham v Kettering
Colchester v Runcorn .... P
Fisher Ath v Kidderminster .... P
Slough v Gateshead .... P
Stafford Ran v Welling
Sutton Utd v Bath .... P
Telford v Boston
Wycombe W v Macclesfield
Yeovil v Northwich

B and Q Scottish League
Premier division
Dunfermline v Hibernian .... P
Hearts v Dundee Utd
Rangers v Motherwell
St Mirren v Celtic (2.0)

First division
Brechin v Airdrie
Clyde v Clydebank .... P
Dundee v Ayr Utd
Falkirk v Raith R
Hamilton v Forfar .... P
Kilmarnock v Partick
Morton v Meadowbank

Second division
Alloa v Stenhousemuir
Berwick v Queen of South
Dumbarton v Albion R
East Fife v Stirling A
Montrose v Cowdenbeath
Queens Park v Arbroath
Stranraer v E Stirling

FA VASE: Fifth round: Cammell Laird v Harwich and Parkeston; Knowsley v Gresley Rovers.

ALLBRIGHT BITTER WELSH CUP: Fifth round: Barry v Abergavenny.

VAUXHALL LEAGUE: Premier division: Basingstoke v Windsor and Eton; Bishop's Stortford v Marlow; Bognor v Grays; Hayes v Hendon; Kingstonian v Aylesbury; Leyton-Wingate v Staines; Redbridge Forest v Barking; St Albans v Carshalton; Wivenhoe v Harrow; Woking v Dagenham; Wokingham v Enfield. First division: Boreham Wood v Whyteleafe; Bromley v Chalfont St Peter; Harlow v Dulwich Hamlet; Heybridge Swifts v Croydon; Hitchin v Metropolitan Police; Lewes v Molesey; Southwick v Uxbridge; Tooting and Mitcham v Aveley; Wembley v Walton and Hersham; Worthing v Yeading. Second division north: Barton v Tring; Basildon v Saffron Walden; Collier Row v Rainham; Edgware v Finchley; Hemel Hempstead v Stevenage Borough; Hertford v Berkhamsted; Kingsbury v Vauxhall Motors; Purfleet v Clapton; Royston v Billericay; Tilbury v Hornchurch; Ware v Witham. Second division south: Abingdon v Horsham; Camberley v Southall; Chertsey v Hampton; Eastbourne v Bracknell; Egham v Harefield; Feltham v Epsom and Ewell; Flackwell Heath v Banstead Ath; Leatherhead v Malden Vale; Hungerford v Maidenhead; Petersfield Utd v Cove; Ruislip Manor v Newbury.

HFS LOANS LEAGUE: Premier division: Droylsden v Gainsborough; Morecambe v Bangor City; Shepshed v Southport; South Liverpool v Frickley; Witton v Hyde. Postponed: Bishop Auckland v Stalybridge; Buxton v Marine; Goole v Horwich; Mossley v Fleetwood; Matlock v Chorley. First division: Accrington v Irlam; Congleton v Netherfield; Farsley Celtic v Newtown; Rossendale v Caernarfon; Warrington v Lancaster. Postponed: Curzon Ashton v Workington; Eastwood Town v Rhyl; Harrogate v Radcliffe Borough; Whitley Bay v Alfreton.

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Atherstone v Bashley; Chelmsford v Weymouth; Dorchester v Dartford; Farnborough v Crawley; Halesowen v Poole; Rushden v Burton; Worcester v Waterlooville. Postponed: Gravesend v VS Rugby; Moor Green v Dover; Wealdstone v Bromsgrove. Southern division: Baldock v Erith and Belvedere; Buckingham v Salisbury; Canterbury v Andover; Fareham v Corinthian; Gosport Borough v Hythe; Margate v Dunstable; Sudbury v Ashford; Trowbridge v Hastings; Witney v Yate. Postponed: Bury v Newport IOW. Midland division: Alvechurch v Bridgnorth; Hinckley v Bedworth; Corby v Redditch; Leicester Utd v Spalding; Newport AFC v Sutton Coldfield; Tamworth v Hednesford. Postponed: Bilston v Dudley; Grantham v Willenhall; King's Lynn v RC Warwick; Nuneaton Borough v Stroud.

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Manchester Utd v Manchester City (2.0).

OVENDEN PAPERS COMBINATION: Luton v Fulham (2.0); Reading v Arsenal (at Arsenal, 2.0). Postponed: Ipswich v Brighton.

BASS IRISH CUP: Sixth round: Ards v Donegal Celtic; Carrick v Larne; Cliftonville v Crusaders; Coagh Utd v Ballyclare; Glenavon v Bangor; Glentoran v Tobermore; Linfield v Coleraine; Portadown v Omagh.

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Chatteris v Clacton; Cornard v March Town; Great Yarmouth v Haverhill; Histon v Wroxham; Lowestoft v Halstead; Newmarket v Felixstowe; Stowmarket v Thetford; Wisbech v Watton.

BASS NORTH WEST COUNTIES: First division: Ashton Utd v Clitheroe; Darwen v Bootle; Flixton v Penrith; Leyland DAF v St Helens; Maine Road (Man) v Colwyn Bay; Nantwich v Skelmersdale; Prescot v Bacup Borough; Vauxhall GM v Salford.

ABACUS WELSH LEAGUE: National division: Ammanford v Afan Lido; Brecon v Cwmbran; Bridgend v Aberystwyth; Briton Ferry v Maesteg; Ferndale v Haverfordwest; Inter Cardiff v Ton Pentre; Pembroke v Abergavenny; Port Talbot v Llanelli.

WEEKLY WYNNER LEAGUE: Premier division: Brigg v Ossett Town; Harrogate Railway v Denaby; North Ferriby v Belper; Ossett Albion v Pontefract Col; Spennymoor v Armthorpe Welfare; Sutton Town v Thackley; Winterton Rangers v Maltby MW.

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Bideford v Mangotsfield; Bristol Manor Farm v Radstock; Chard v Tiverton; Chippenham v Torrington; Ottery St Mary v Weston-super-Mare; Paulton v Barnstaple; Plymouth Argyle v Dawlish; Taunton v Exmouth.

NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Consett v Shildon; Durham City v Brandon; Ferryhill Ath v Whickham; Guisborough v Tow Law; Murton v Blyth Spartans (2.45); Northallerton v Whitby (2.45); Seaham Red Star v Stockton; South Bank v Alnwick.

OLD BOYS LEAGUE: Premier division: Chertsey v Old Aloysians; C Manning v Old Hamptonians; Glyn v Old Owens; Old Bromleians v Old Meadonians; Old Danes v Old Kingsburians; Old Edmontonians v Enfield; Old Ignatians v St Mary's; Old Suttonians v Latymer.

ARTHURIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Old Brentwoods v Old Malvernians; Old Carthusians v Old Salopians; Old Wellingburians v Old Reptonians. First division: Old Aldenhamians v Old Wykehamists; Old Bradfieldians v Old Ardinians; Old Cholmeleians v Old Etonians; Old Harrovians v Old Haileyburians.

SOUTHERN OLYMPIAN LEAGUE: First division: Old Finchleians v Old Grammarians. Old Parmiterians v Mill Hill Village; Parkfield v Old Bealonians; Witan v Southgate County.

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Portsmouth v Leyton Orient. Postponed: Chelsea v Watford; Fulham v Gillingham; QPR v Norwich; Southend v Charlton; Tottenham v Arsenal; West Ham v Cambridge United. Second division: Bournemouth v Oxford United; Bristol Rovers v Colchester; Luton v Brentford. Postponed: Aldershot v Crystal Palace; Maidstone v Swindon; Reading v Bristol City; Southampton v Tottenham; Wimbledon v Brighton.

BASKETBALL

8.0 unless stated

CARLSBERG NATIONAL LEAGUE: Men: First division: Derby v Thames Valley (7.30); Hemel Hempstead v Leicester; Kingston v London Docklands (7.30); Worthing v Sunderland. Second division: Broxbourne v Brixton; Coventry v Oldham; Plymouth v Watford (7.30). Third division: Calderdale v North London; Chiltern v Birmingham; Fylde v Cheshire; Greenwich v Barnsley (7.0); Leicester v Cardiff (6.0). Women: First division: Rhondda v Northampton (6.0); Sheffield v Crystal Palace (2.0). Second division: Doncaster v Camberley (5.00); Harlesden v South Tyneside (6.0); Hemel Hempstead v Northampton (6.0); Kiddees v Sunderland (6.0).

MEN'S NATIONAL TROPHY: Semi-final: Bury v Cheshire (6.0).

ICE HOCKEY

HEINEKEN NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Ayr v Peterborough (7.0); Cardiff v Durham (6.30); Fife v Murrayfield (7.15); Nottingham v Solihull (6.30). First division: Basingstoke v Glasgow (6.0); Bracknell v Romford (6.0); Lee Valley v Telford (5.30); Slough v Humberside (5.45); Swindon v Trafford (5.0).

ENGLISH LEAGUE: Milton Keynes v Chelmsford (6.0); Sunderland v Haringey (5.30).

VOLLEYBALL

ROYAL BANK NATIONAL LEAGUE: Men: First division: Team Mizuno Malory v Radio Trent Rockets (6.30); Staffordshire Moorlands v Speedwell Rucanor (7.30); MGI Wessex v Polonia (6.30). Aquila v Purbrook Portsmouth (7.30).

LACROSSE

BRINE NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Heaton Mersey v Sheffield University; Old Hulmeians v Timperley.

SOUTH OF ENGLAND MEN'S LACROSSE ASSOCIATION: First division: Hillcroft v Hitchin.

BOWLS

MIDLAND BANK WORLD INDOOR CHAMPIONSHIP (Guildhall, Preston).

HAVEN COMMERCIAL UNION INTER-CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP: Quarter-finals: Hartlepool v Nottingham (Scarborough, 12.0). Cambridge Park v Folkestone (Mote Park, Maidstone, 10.0). Bristol v West Cornwall (Tengbridge Newton Abbot, 2.0). City of Ely v Wymondham Dell (Mid-Suffolk, Stowmarket, 10.0).

LIBERTY TROPHY: Semi-finals: Durham v Norfolk (Newark, 2.30). Worcestershire v Middlesex (Kingsthorpe, Northampton, 2.0).

OTHER SPORT

ATHLETICS: National women's cross-country championships (Birkenhead).
SWIMMING: British grand prix meeting (Newcastle).

RUGBY UNION

Five nations' championship
England v Scotland (at Twickenham, 2.30)
Wales v Ireland (at National Stadium, Cardiff, 2.30)

Club matches
Edinburgh W v Royal High (12.0)
Fylde v Liverpool St Helens (2.30)
Gala v Roundhay (12.0)
Hawick v Sale (12.0)
Headingley v Harlequins .... P
Leicester v Rugby .... P
L Scottish v Edinburgh A (11.0)
L Welsh v Rosslyn Pk (11.0)
Met Police v Cheltenham (11.30)
N Gosforth v Sheffield (2.30) .... P
Nottingham v W Hartlepool
Orrell v Bedford
Plymouth A v Camborne (2.30)
Wakefield v Morley
Waterloo v Saracens (2.15)

POSTPONED: Vale of Lune v Cambridge University.

SCOTLAND: Club matches: Edinburgh Wanderers v Royal High; Gala v Roundhay; Glasgow High-Kelvinside v Ayr; Hawick v Sale; Hillhead-Jordanhill v Cartha Queens Park; Hutchesons'-Aloysians v Corstorphine; Kirkcaldy v Grangemouth; Langholm v Aspatria.

LONDON AND SOUTH EAST: Fullers Brewery Middlesex Merit Table: Ealing v Uxbridge; Kingsburians v Harrow. ADT CLOB Merit Table: Old Dunstonian v KCS Old Boys; Old Wimbledonians v Old Reigatian. Hertfordshire Merit Table: Bishop's Stortford v Hertford; Old Verulamians v Old Albanians. Inter Banks Cup: Bank of England v Nat West Bank. Club matches: Antlers v Merton; Bancroft v Braintree; Battersea Ironsides v Raynes Park; Bec Old Boys v Old Croydonians; Beckenham v Tonbridge; Bracknell v Redingensians; Brighton v Warlingham; Buckingham v Kibworth; Cambridge v University LX Club; Canterbury v Gillingham Anchorians; Chelmsford v Saffron Walden; Chichester v Uckfield; Chinnor v Pheonix; Chipstead v Cranleigh; Cobham v Old Pelhamians; Crowborough v Ashford; East Grinstead v Bognor; Edenbridge v Orpington; Esso v Alton; Farnham v Winchester; Feltham v Veseyans; Finchley v Mill Hill; Grasshoppers v Centaurs; Guys Hospital v Bromley; Harlow v Norwich; Hove v Haywards Heath; Ilford Wndrs v Chingford; Ipswich YMCA v Clacton; John Fisher Old Boys v Mitcham; Letchworth GC v Luton; Midland Bank v Folkestone; North Walsham v Cheshunt; Old Cottesians v Old Juddians; Old Emanuel v Old Paulines; Old Epsomians v Effingham; Old Gaytonians v High Wycombe; Old Meadonians v Osterley; Old Mid-Whitgiftians v Shirley Wanderers; Old Reedonians v Old Wandsworthians; Old Tottonians v St Albans; Old Williamsonians v Bexley; Oxford University v Oxford; OV's v Old Albanian; Park House v Thanet Wndrs; PLA v Haringey; Pulborough v Hastings and Bexhill; Purley v Westcombe Park; Reading v Swindon; Romford and Gidea Park v Wanstead; Slough v Lensbury; Stratford v Banbury; Sudbury v Newark; Sudbury Court v Wembley; Tabard v Biggleswade; UCS Old Boys v St Nicholas Old Boys; University Vandals v Old Freemens; Vigo v Cranbrook; Wasps Wanderers v Welwyn; Westcliffians v Gravesend; WUHE v Blackheathens.

WEST: Club matches: Avonmouth v Old Redcliffians; Bath CS v Colerne; Bath OE v Hornets; Bristol Ser v Cotham Park; Bristol Tel v BAC; Chard v Dorchester; Cheltenham CS v St Brendan's Old Boys; Chippenham v Matson Utd; Chipping Sodbury v Old Ashtonians; Cleve v Gloucester Utd; Clifton v US Portsmouth; Falmouth v Tiverton; Frampton Cotterell v Old Elizabethans; Helston v Redruth Albany; Imperial v Ashley Down; Keynsham v St Mary's Old Boys; Launceston v Taunton; Liskeard-Looe v Plymouth Alb Utd; Midsomer Norton v Sherborne; Morganians v Wincombe; Newquay Hornets v Hayle; Old Bristolians v Backwell; Old Culverhaysians v Dings Crusaders; Old Sulians v Old Colstonians; OPO v Bude; Paignton v Sidmouth; Penzance and Newlyn v Penryn; Plymouth Alb v Camborne; Roseland v Perranporth; RAF Portreath v Bodmin St Lawrence; RNE Coll v Saltash; St Austell v Hayle, St Bernadette's Old Boys v North Bristol, SW Gas v Blagdon; Stithians v St Day; Thornbury v Clifton Wanderers; Torquay Ath v Redruth; Tredworth v Bishopston; Truro v Bideford; Walcot v Aretians; Wellington v Plymouth Extras; Weston-super-Mare v St Ives; Wiveliscombe v Clevedon.

MIDLANDS: Club matches: AEI Rugby v Northampton Heathens; Amber Valley v Scunthorpe; Aylestone St James v Trinity Guild; Banbury v Stratford upon Avon; Barkers Butts v Leamington; Birmingham Civil Service v Gloucester Civil Service; Bedford Athletic v Keresley; Belper v Ashfield Swans; Birkenhead Park v Birmingham and Solihull; Boots Athletic v All Spartans; Bourne v New Parks Old Boys; Bournville v Silhillians; Bridgnorth v Malvern; Buckingham v Kibworth; Camp Hill v Burton on Trent; Chester v Stoke-on-Trent; Congleton v Linley; Corby v St Neots; Coventry Saracens v Market Bosworth; Cutler Hammer v Bugbrooke; Dixonians v Nuneaton OE; Dunlop v Birchfield; Erdington v Coalville; Evesham v West Midlands Police; Feltham v Veseyans; Gainsborough v Cleethorpes; GEC Coventry v Broad Street; Grimsby v Kesteven; Harbury v Birmingham City Officials; Huddersfield v Derby; Ilkeston v Rugby St Andrews; Jaguar (Coventry) v Warwick; Kettering v Old Leamingtonians; Keyworth v Rolls Royce; Kidderminster Carolians v Bromsgrove; Kings Norton v Earlsdon; Kynoch v Bromyard; Leek v Bakewell Mannerians; Leesbrook v East Leake; Letchworth v Luton; Long Buckby v Daventry; Long Eaton v Ashbourne; Luctonians v Newtown; Matlock v Dudley; Melton Mowbray v Nottinghamians; Michelin v Rugeley; Middlesbrough v Walsall; Moderns v Mellish; Mosborough v Buxton; Newbold on Avon v Chesterfield; North Kesteven v Meden Vale; Northampton Mens Own v Birstall; Old Ashbeians v Coventrians; Old Laurentians v Coventry Post Office; Ollerton-Bevercotes v Rainworth; Olney v Northampton BB Old Boys; Old Newtonians v Manor Park; Old Oaks v Burntwood; Oswestry v Market Drayton; Pontefract v Paviors; Redditch v Five Ways OE; Rotherham v Mansfield; Rubery Owen v Cannock; Rushden & Higham v Wellingborough; Shipston on Stour v Alcester; Sleaford v Dronfield; South Leicester v Atherstone; Smiths v Ledbury; Southam v Old Warwickians; Southwell v Syston; Standard v Berkswell and Balsall; Stewarts and Lloyds v Old Bosworthians; St.Ives v Hitchin; Stoneygate v Westleigh; Tamworth v Kenilworth; Tupton v Braunstone Town; Uttoxeter v Melbourne; Vipers v Towcestrians; Warley v Ludlow; Wednesbury v Thimblemill; Wellingborough OG v Northampton Casuals; Westwood v Anstey; Whitchurch v Newcastle (Staffs); Wigston v Ampthill; Willenhall v Old Halesonians; Wolverhampton v Sutton Coldfield; Woodrush v Old Saltleians; Worcester v Stourbridge; Worksop v Aylestonians; Yarborough Bees v Harworth Colliery.

NORTH: Courage Clubs Championship: North West Second division: Wilmslow v St Edwards Old Boys. North East Second division: Selby v Beverley. Club matches: Acklam v Yarnbury; Amber Valley v Scunthorpe; Birkenhead Park v Birmingham and Solihull; Blackburn v Macclesfield; Burnage v Fleetwood; Carnforth v Oldham; Castle College v Buxton XV; Chester v Stoke; Clitheroe v Dukinfield; Crewe and Nantwich v Bowdon; Didsbury Toc H v Manchester XV; Eagle v Metrovick; Furness XV v Upper Eden; Goole v Thornensians; Heaton Moor v Caldy; Hornsea v Barton; Hoylake v Bury; Hull and ER v Burley; Hullensians v Leeds Corinthians; Knottingley v Old Hymerians; Malton and Norton v Whitby; Manchester v Old Aldwinians; Marist v Pocklington; Market Rasen v Headingley Wanderers; Mold v New Brighton; Mosborough v Buxton; Newton-le-Willows v Rossendale; Old Parkonians v Wirral; Ormskirk v Sedgley Park; Sale XV v Old Salians; Sandbach v Ashton on Mersey; Sefton v Tyldesley; Sheffield Extra First v Wath; Sheffield Tigers v Upminster; Sheffield Vulcans v Hope Valley; Wallasey v Deeside; Wensleydale v West Hartlepool; Wharfedale v West Park Bramhope; Wheatley Hills v Rodillians; Windermere v Ruskin Park; Vale of Lune v Winnington Park; Withernsea v Market Rasen XV; York RI v Old Brodleians. Yorkshire Shield: Semi-final: Doncaster v Driffield; Bradford Salem v Old Otliensians.

IRELAND: Senior Club: Dublin University v Bangor (11.30am); Lansdowne v Blackrock College; Old Belvedere v Shannon (12.00); Terenure College v Constitution (1.00); Skerries v Academy (12.00); Ards v Wanderers (2.30); Dungannon v Monkstown; Garryowen v Old Wesley; CIYMS v Queen's University (12.00); NIFC v Waterpark (2.30).

RUGBY LEAGUE

BRITISH COAL TEST: Great Britain v France (at Headingley, 2.45).

SLALOM LAGER ALLIANCE CHALLENGE CUP: First round: Batley v Trafford B (2.30); Castleford v Carlisle (2.30); Hunslet v Hull (11.30am); Keighley v Doncaster (2.30); Rochdale H v Whitehaven (2.30); Ryedale York v Featherstone R (2.30); Wakefield T v Fulham (2.30); Widnes v Salford (1.00); Workington T v Swinton (2.30).

OPENCAST BRITISH AMATEUR LEAGUE: First division: Leigh Miners v Mayfield; Millom v Heworth; Saddleworth v Woolston. Second division: Askam v Lock Lane; Shaw Cross v Milford.

NATIONAL LEAGUE CHALLENGE CUP: First round: Wigan St Pats v East Leeds. Second round: Barrow Island v West Hull; Beverley v Egremont; Dewsbury Celtic v Br Aerospace; Knottingley v Leigh East; Redhill v Dudley Hill.

HOCKEY

FOUNDSTRECHER NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Isca v Wakefield (Ottery St Mary, 2.30). Postponed: Bromley v Cannock; Hounslow v Indian Gymkhana. Second division: Brean v Doncaster (Edgarley Hall School, 12.30); Canterbury v Firebrands (Polo Farm, Canterbury, 2.30); Gore Court v Warrington (Anchorians SC, Gillingham, 10.30); Harborne v Lions (Hadley Stadium, Birmingham, 12.45); Taunton Vale v Broxbourne (Taunton School, 12.0); Trojans v Guildford (Trojans SC, Eastleigh, 1.0). Postponed: Bournville v Richmond; Reading v Cambridge City.

ERNST AND YOUNG MIDLANDS LEAGUE: Premier division: Coventry and North Warwickshire v Leicester Westleigh; John Player v Belper; Kidderminster v Bloxwich; Olton and West Warwickshire v Barford Tigers.

PIZZA EXPRESS LONDON LEAGUE: Premier division: Beckenham v Hampstead; London University v Dulwich; Mid-Surrey v Maidenhead; Purley v Camb University; Spencer v Cheam; Weybridge v Blackheath; Wimbledon v Tulse Hill.

NORWICH UNION EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Cambs Nomads v Westcliff; Chelmsford v Blueharts; Colchester v Wisbech; Crostyx v Bedford; Ford v Bury St Edmunds; Harleston Magpies v Pelicans; Ipswich v Peterborough; Norwich City v Bishop's Stortford.

PERONI SOUTH LEAGUE: Premier division: Anchorians v Old Midwhitgiftians; Bournemouth and West Hants v High Wycombe; Camberley v Worthing; Chichester v Eastcote; Fareham v Winchester; Oxford Hawks v Marden Russets; Staines v Bognor; Tunbridge Wells v Old Tauntonians. Regional leagues: Hampshire and Surrey: Barnes v Goan; Basingstoke v Epsom; Fleet v Woking; Met Police v NatWest Bank; Old Walcountians v Hamble Old Boys; Oxted v Old Edwardians; Southampton University v Pirelli; Walton v Merton. Kent and Sussex: Burnt Ash v Tonbridge; Eastbourne v Old Beccehamians; Lloyds Bank v Lewes; Midland Bank v Horsham; Mid-Sussex v Herne Bay; Old Bordenians v Rochester and Gillingham; Old Williamsonians v Gravesend; Sevenoaks v Old Holcombeians. Middlesex, Berks, Bucks and Oxon: Ashford v Marlow; Aylesbury v Old Merchant Taylors; Gerrards Cross v Hayes; Hendon v City of Oxford; NPL v Bracknell; Southgate Adel v Amersham; Windsor v Harrow; Witney v Sunbury.

AW YARNS NORTH PREMIER LEAGUE: Bowdon v Hightown Northern; Liverpool Sefton v Preston; Norton v Durham University; Ramgarhia v Brooklands; Sheffield v Ben Rhydding; Stockton v Disley; Timperley v Alderley Edge; Tynemouth v Formby.

MTM NORTH EAST LEAGUE: Billingham v Sunderland; Carlisle v Tynedale; Marton Furness v Swalwell; Morpeth v Darlington; South Shields v Whitehaven; St Georges v Redcar.

TIPP-EX YORKSHIRE LEAGUE: Adel v Farsley; Brigg v Appleby Frodingham; Chapeltown v Driffield; Harrogate v York; Huddersfield v Bardsey; Lincoln v Bradford; Rosses v Grimsby; Rotherham v Sheffield Bankers; York CS Trojans v Halifax.

HALPERN AND WOOLF NORTH WEST LEAGUE: Blackburn v Oxton; Cheadle Hill v Macclesfield; Chester v Wigan; Knutsford v Southport; Manchester v Deeside Ramblers; Manchester YMCA v Sale; Northop Hall v Prescot; West Derby v Springfields.

SUN LIFE WEST LEAGUE: Premier division: Bath Bucs v Otter Vale; Cheltenham v Exeter University; Exeter Crickets v Bridgwater; Gloucester v Plymouth; Hereford v Swindon; Marlborough v Clevedon; Westbury Banks v West Gloucester.

All matches subject to ground inspections.

TOMORROW

3.0 unless stated

FOOTBALL

FA Cup
Fifth round
Liverpool v Everton

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Cambridge City v Gloucester.

RUGBY UNION

LONDON AND SOUTH EAST: Surrey County Cup: Fourth round: Guildford and Godalming v Cranleigh; KCS Old Boys v Sutton and Epsom; Old Alleynians v Old Mid-Whitgiftians; Old Reigatians v Streatham-Croydon. Bass Hampshire Cup: Semi-finals: Alton v Tottonians; Havant v Basingstoke. Bass Hampshire Plate: Semi-finals: Fareham Heathens v Southampton University; Southampton v Esso. Inter Bank Cup: Bank of England v Royal Bank of Scotland. Club matches: Barnet v Harlequin Jaguars; Old Millhillians v Old Elizabethans.

RUGBY LEAGUE

SILK CUT CHALLENGE CUP: First round: Barrow v Hunslet; Bradford v Leigh; Bramley v Oldham (2.30); Sheffield v Featherstone (3.15); Workington v Hull KR. Halifax v Fulham.

STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP: First division: Hull KR v Castleford (3.15); Leeds v Widnes; Rochdale v Warrington. Postponed: St Helens v Hull. Second division: Carlisle v Swinton (1.0); Dewsbury v Nottingham (2.15); Doncaster v Halifax (3.30); Huddersfield v Ryedale-York (3.30); Keighley v Runcorn (3.15); Salford v Chorley; Whitehaven v Batley (3.30).

HOCKEY

NATIONWIDE ANGLIA CUP: Fourth round: Firebrands v Jersey (Bristol University, 12.15); Gloucester City v Richmond (Plock Court, Gloucester, 2.0); Canterbury v Cannock (Polo Farm, Canterbury 12.30); Gore Court v Indian Gymkhana (Anchorians HC, 1.30); Cambridge University Wanderers v Reading (Coldhams Common, 1.30); Fareham v Doncaster (Bay House School, Gosport, 12.30); Bournemouth v Coventry and North Warwickshire (Bournemouth SC 1.30), Formby v Old Kingstonians (Blagate SC, 1.30); Slough v Woking (Wexham School Slough, 2.0) Postponed: Bromley v Bournville, Lions v Brean.

ICE HOCKEY

HEINEKEN NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Murrayfield v Peterborough (6.30) Solihull v Cleveland (5.15), Whitley v Nottingham (5.30). First division: Basingstoke v Telford (5.0) Humberside v Glasgow (5.15); Lee Valley v Bracknell (5.30) Romford v Slough (5.0); Trafford v Medway (5.30).

ENGLISH LEAGUE: Blackburn v Sheffield (6.30); Oxford City v Chelmsford (5.30); Richmond v Milton Keynes (5.30).

VOLLEYBALL

ROYAL BANK NATIONAL LEAGUE: Men: First division: Team Mizuno Malory v Hilton Leeds (2.30); Reebok Liverpool City v Speedwell Rucanor (12.30). Women: First division: GP Scorpions v Woolwich Brixton Knights (1.45); Ashcombe Sabre Dorking v Mizuno Britannia (2.30) Southgate v Dynamo London (11.30).

BASKETBALL

4.0 unless stated

CARLSBERG NATIONAL LEAGUE: Men: First division: Leicester v Derby (4.0); London Docklands v Worthing (4.0). Second division: Brixton v Manchester; Cheshire v Oldham (6.0); Middlesbrough v Birmingham. Third division: Calderdale v Greenwich (6.0); Cardiff v Cheshire; Kirklees v Leicester; Swindon v Fylde (4.15). Women: First division: Crystal Palace v Northampton (2.0); Ipswich v London YMCA; London Jets v Nottingham; Sheffield v Manchester (2.0); Tyneside v Brixton (3.0). Second division: Leicester v Hemel Hempstead (12.0); Northampton v Kirklees (3.30); Wirral v Swindon (3.0).

MEN'S NATIONAL TROPHY: Semi-final: Broxbourne v Doncaster.

LACROSSE

AVON INSURANCE SENIOR FLAGS: Semi-final: Cheadle v Mellor (at Stockport).

OTHER SPORT

ATHLETICS: Dairy Crest games-IAAF invitation meeting (Cosford).
BOWLS: Midland Bank world indoor championship (Guildhall, Preston).
SNOOKER: Pearl Assurance British Open (Derby).
SWIMMING: British grand prix meeting (Newcastle).

All matches subject to ground inspections.

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BOWLS

Price bid undercut by Evans

By DAVID RHYS JONES

WHEN he played football for Torquay United in the 1960s, John Evans says, he made himself unpopular with the manager, Frank O'Farrell, who tried in vain to stop him playing in the national championships.

Now aged 43, Evans's excursion to Preston for the £130,000 Midland Bank world indoor singles championship is good public relations for his Torquay hotel.

Evans endeared himself to spectators as he grimaced his way to a remarkable victory over the world champion, John Price.

Price seemed on his way to an easy victory when he won the first set 7-1, and must have regarded the loss of the second, 6-7, as a minor hiccup as he took the third, 7-5, after trailing 2-5.

In the fourth set, Price missed several opportunities to take the match, once failing to reach the jack when an open backhand gave him the chance to draw the outright winner. After losing the set, 6-7, however, he was soon back in control, leading 4-0 in the decider.

Evans, undaunted, chalked up two shots on the next end and took the lead, 5-4, with a well-taken count of three. The four singles which followed went to Price and Evans alternately, but only after tense exchanges.

RESULT: Singles: First round: J Evans (Eng) bt J Price (Wales), 1-7, 7-6, 5-7, 7-6, 7-6.

CYCLING

Doyle left in the lurch by sponsors

NEGOTIATIONS for a new sponsor to pick up the reins of the disbanded Ever Ready-Halfords professional team have collapsed, it emerged yesterday when the six riders hoping for contracts were told that the proposed deal was off (Peter Bryan writes).

Difficult trading conditions were given as the reason for the unidentified would-be sponsor pulling out to leave, among others, the former world champion, Tony Doyle and Milk Race and Kellogg's Tour of Britain winner, Joey McLoughlin, without backing for the domestic professional season starting next month.

Doyle said that he had already secured options from potential sponsors.

Chris Boardman, the national 25 miles and hill climb champion, tomorrow pairs up with the rider who beat him in last year's British 4,000 metres pursuit championship final, Simon Lillistone. They compete in the Ellesmere Port two-up 25-miles time-trial at Farndon, near Chester.

هدية من الاهرام

Espy set to regain winning thread in Fairlawne Chase

By MANDARIN
(MICHAEL PHILLIPS)

WITH prospects improving rapidly at Windsor, Espy, the useful Charlie Brooks-trained eight-year-old, should make a successful comeback in the Fairlawne Chase today.

Espy found himself out of his depth at Kempton on Boxing Day when contesting the King George VI Steeplechase. But earlier he had beaten Comandante *in good* style at Newbury, before going under by 1½ lengths to Thar-An-Bharr in a tight finish again on the Berkshire course.

The Hatch Bridge Hurdle will bring about an intriguing clash between **Champagne Gold** and **Reve De Valse**, both of whom have won their last three races.

Having trained Champagne Gold on the Flat, Denys Smith must know what he is taking on with Reve De Valse.

The fact that Reve De Valse has come all the way from his Bishop Auckland base in Co Durham speaks for itself.

At the end of the programme, his stable and travelling companion **Hell Of A Guy** (4.30) can help to make the journey even more profitable for Smith by capturing the Henley National Hunt Flat Race.

Earlier, the Nicky Henderson-trained **Badrakhani** will have a sound chance indeed of winning the Runnymede Handicap Hurdle if he is still as sharp as he was when runner-up at Newbury and Kempton, having won first time out at Huntingdon.

Hills: Lingfield chance with Lady Philippa

Jenny Pitman's **The Shy Controller** looks best for the Slough Novices' Hurdle and **Granny Pray On**, who showed plenty of promise when chasing home Tree Poppy at Newton Abbot last month, should be another winner for Reg Akehurst's successful stable in the Magna Carta Novices' Chase.

Lady Philippa, who has done all of her racing so far on the Equitrack surface at Lingfield Park, is my idea of today's best bet. Accordingly, she is napped to win the Montgomery Handicap on the Surrey track in the hands of Dean McKeown, who was her jockey when she won her maiden so easily over today's distance three weeks ago.

If she is successful again, Lady Philippa could easily become the last winner that her trainer Barry Hills sends out from Manton before he completes his move back to South Bank, his previous base *in Lambourn*.

Barry Hills reported that Lady Philippa is in prime condition and poised to give of her best.

That best, which amounts to an easy six-length victory last month and a narrow defeat in December, should suffice in this company, even though today's race is a handicap and the field includes Blazing Belle and Broughton Blues, other previous winners on this same all-weather surface.

Having beaten Lady Philippa with Wicked Things just after Christmas, the Whitsbury trainer David Elsworth is now clearly not afraid to run his own filly Meritsu who had Rainbow Chaser, another of today's runners, behind when she was beaten three lengths by Quick Ransom five weeks ago.

But I still much prefer Lady Philippa, who could easily become the second leg of a double for the Hills family because at the start of the programme, Richard, one of Barry's twin sons, should win the Wavell Maiden Stakes on *Pims Classic who*, on breeding, should be better suited by today's trip than the seven furlongs over which he was twice second at Southwell last year.

Otherwise, it should pay to follow **Chronological** (1.55), **Damaskeen** (2.25) and **Rapporteur** (2.55), who have all been successful at Lingfield this year.

Slight drop in attendances

RACING attendances were slightly down in 1990, with a total of 4,817,914 attending 1,026 meetings, compared with 4,924,603 at 1,005 in 1989. The average daily attendance fell *from 4,900 to 4,696.*

The figures in mid-summer were adversely affected by the impact of the World Cup, with attendances being drastically reduced at many meetings.

Windsor hopes rising fast

A RAPID thaw yesterday prompted growing optimism that Windsor will today stage *the first racing on turf in Britain* for a fortnight. The meeting survived a noon inspection yesterday and stewards will take another look at 7.30 this morning.

Hugo Bevan, the clerk of the course, said: "The frost is coming out of the ground very quickly and as long as the thaw continues tonight we must have an 80 per cent chance of going ahead. *The main problem is the* landing and take-off areas around the fences. If there is any further frost tonight, we won't be able to race."

The last turf racing took place on February 2, and 32 National Hunt meetings have since been lost. Today's other turf meetings at Nottingham, Newcastle and Chepstow were all abandoned on Thursday.

The rise in temperatures has also improved prospects for Fontwell Park on Monday and an inspection there will not now be held until 10am tomorrow.

Cliff Griggs, the clerk of the course, said: "All the snow has gone and only about 20 per cent of the track has any frost in it. The forecast is in our favour and we are very hopeful."

Wolverhampton's prospects are not as bright. The snow and frost were thawing yesterday *morning but the forecast is for* more cold weather.

Although conditions have improved at Sedgefield, the chances of Tuesday's meeting taking place are still remote.

Nick The Brief to take honours in Hennessy

FROM OUR IRISH RACING CORRESPONDENT, DUBLIN

NICK **The Brief** has not won a race since capturing the Vincent O'Brien Gold Cup at Leopards*town 12 months ago, but seems* set for a winning return today in a race under new sponsorship, the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup.

His owner-trainer John Upson has already declared that *this race is his primary target of* the season in the expectation that he would be assured of softer ground here than at Cheltenham in the Tote Gold Cup.

For much of the week it was touch and go whether his confidence in the Irish weather would be justified. At one stage fast frosty ground was a distinct possibility, but when the winds changed direction on Thursday morning, the rains came and Leopardstown's manager Tony Cocheran yesterday predicted a soft surface.

Nick The Brief showed that he was on his way back to top form when, in a slow-run Agfa Diamond Handicap Chase at Sandown, he was outpaced on the flat and beaten three-quarters of a length by Desert Orchid.

The second British challenger *Norton's Coin*, who *provided* the biggest surprise in the history of the Gold Cup with his 100-1 success on good to firm ground last March, may not be quite as fit as Nick The Brief. He was beaten ten lengths into third place behind Celtic Shot at Cheltenham last month.

So far this winter all the British challengers have been successfully repulsed, but the Irish bookmaker P J Hennessey may well have got it right in making an British one-two a 5-4 on chance today.

Roc De Prince, who has proved such a splendid moneymaker since coming to Ireland and who gave Ted Walsh a *flying start to his training career* by winning the Thyestes Chase at Gowran Park, may not now confirm the form there with Cahervillahow. The latter was beaten three-quarters of a length and not only is *he 5lb better off* with Roc De Prince, but also wears blinkers for the first time.

To put the Irish team into perspective though, Carvill's Hill, who was beaten by Nick The Brief last year, was handicapped at Gowran Park to give no less than 18lb to Cahervillahow and 23lb to Roc De Prince, yet all will be competing on level terms today.

Garamycin is developing into *a notable Leopardstown special*ist and course win No 6 could be on the cards in the Irish National Hunt Novice Chase. He has not won at this distance, but stayed on strongly over 2¼ miles last time to beat Toranfield by a dozen lengths. The danger looks to be Final *Tub, who is sure to stay the trip* and beat Joyful Noise very snugly at Fairyhouse last time.

Michael Smurfit should be almost guaranteed to lead in the winner of the Noel McCabe *Distributors Hurdle in which he* will be represented by the Dermot Weld-trained Rare Holiday and the Jim Bolger-trained Chirkpar.

Rare Holiday was a remote fourth to Nordic Surprise in the Wessel Cable Champion Hurdle but if he can recapture his Triumph Hurdle form he would surely beat the novices on these terms.

General Idea (2.0) and **Ned Of The Hill** (2.35) will both go well *in two earlier races which will be* recorded on Channel 4, while BBC will show a recording of the 4.5 race after the rugby union international.

LEOPARDSTOWN C4

Going: soft

3.5 IRISH NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES CHASE (Ir£13,000: 2m 4f) (10 runners)

1 6F121 FINAL TUB 24 (G,S) (S O'Brien) V T O'Brien 8-11-12 .... K Morgan
2 31843 FIRIONS LAW 13 (C,S) (Mrs M Quinn) V Bowens 8-11-12 .... C Bowens
3 1F411 GARAMYCIN 13 (C,G,S) (P Garahy) W Deacon 9-11-12 .... B Sheridan
4 F3511 NEW MILL HOUSE 30 (CD,G,S) (Exors J Lyons) A Moore 8-11-12 .. T Taaffe
5 21305 WRITER'S QUAY 28 (D,G,S) (Mrs D Breen) E Harty 8-11-8 .... A Powell
6 221F3 KINDLY KING 30 (S) (K Neville) M Keane 7-11-8 .... W Slattery
7 201U2 RAGGED RIVER 24 (CD,S) (M Hickey) M Hickey 9-11-8 .... Mr D Hickey (7)
8 00-UU MY VIEW 24 (C,S) (Mrs S Purcell) M Purcell 7-11-2 .... T Carmody
9 U3322 YOUR ON YOUR OWN 10 (BF,S) (M Cuddy) C Power 8-11-2 .... C O'Dwyer
10 -1420 LYNTIM 42 (D,G,S) (P McWilliams) W Rock 8-11-1 .... K Walsh

BETTING: 9-4 Garamycin, 7-2 Final Tub, 5-1 New Mill House, 6-1 Firions Law, 8-1 Writer's Quay, 10-1 Your On Your Own, 12-1 Kindly King, 14-1 others.

FINAL TUB beat Joyful Noise 6l at *Fairyhouse (2m 2f, yielding to soft)* with MY VIEW unseating rider, earlier beat FIRIONS LAW (3lb better off) 4l at *Fairyhouse (2m 6f, good)* with YOUR ON YOUR OWN unseating rider.
GARAMYCIN beat Toranfield 12l over 2m 2f (yielding) here with FIRIONS LAW (4lb better off) 8l 3rd. NEW MILL HOUSE beat Dark Dawn 8l at Gowran Park with KINDLY KING 10l 3rd and RAGGED RIVER unseating rider (2m 6f, yielding to soft).
KINDLY KING beat Bonne Sante 1½l at *Clonmel (3m, soft) in December.* RAGGED RIVER short head 2nd to Cloney Grange at Fairyhouse (3m, yielding). YOUR ON YOUR OWN 8l 2nd to Adanac at Down Royal (2m 4f, good to yielding).
Selection: FINAL TUB

3.35 NOEL MCCABE DISTRIBUTORS HURDLE (Listed race: Ir£6,900: 2m) (10 runners)

1 21161 NORTON VILLE 10 (D,G,S) (Miss M McGrattan) D Murphy 5-11-12 .. M Flynn
2 1-004 RARE HOLIDAY 13 (D,F) (M Smurfit) D Weld 5-11-4 .... B Sheridan
3 10 BE MY IDLE 17 (D,S) (P Moore) M J O'Brien 5-10-13 .... P Russell
4 113 GALWAY STAR 21 (D,BF,G,S) (P Keary) P Mullins 4-10-13 .... A Mullins
5 23122 GLITTER GREY 42 (CD,S) (O Lehane) J Scott 5-10-13 .... P McWilliams
6 2101 OH JACKO 17 (D,S) (Mrs T Byrne) S Treacy 4-10-9 .... C Swan
7 1 CHIRKPAR 13 (CD,S) (M Smurfit) J Bolger 4-10-9 .... L Cusack
8 25 BOARDING SCHOOL 52 (M O'Toole) M O'Toole 4-10-5 .... J Banahan
9 23 LARNACA 21 (W Matthews) B Kelly 4-10-5 .... T Carmody
10 520 KEY PARTNER 51 (J McLoughlin) J McLoughlin 4-10-0 .... A Powell

BETTING: 2-1 Rare Holiday, 5-2 Chirkpar, 9-2 Norton Ville, 6-1 On Jacko, 8-1 Galway Star, 10-1 Larnaca, 12-1 Glitter Grey, 14-1 others.

NORTON VILLE beat Mountstart Lady 6l *at Down Royal (2m 2f, good to yielding).* OH JACKO beat Upsall 3l at Naas (2m, heavy) with BE MY IDLE 7th.
RARE HOLIDAY, winner of last year's Triumph Hurdle at Cheltenham (2m, good to firm), 15¾l 4th to Nordic Surprise in Wessel Cable Hurdle here (2m, good to yielding). GALWAY STAR 3¼l 3rd to How's The Boss at Naas (2m, soft). GLITTER GREY *8l 2nd to Nordic Surprise* in listed hurdle at Naas (2m, soft).
CHIRKPAR impressed on hurdling debut when beating Keppols Prince 6l over course and distance (good to yielding). LARNACA 3½l 3rd to Cheering News at Naas (2m, soft).
Selection: RARE HOLIDAY

4.5 HENNESSY COGNAC GOLD CUP (Listed race: Ir£44,125: 3m) (6 runners)

1 13-U313 CAHERVILLAHOW 30 (B,CD,BF,G,S) (Mrs M Valentine) M Morris 7-12-0 .... C Swan
2 0-11224 CLOUGHTANEY 13 (C,G,S) (C Maye) P Mullins 10-12-0 .... T Carmody
3 11P-3P2 NICK THE BRIEF 14 (CD,F,G,S) (J Upson) J Upson (GB) 9-12-0 ... R Supple
4 0231-F3 NORTON'S COIN 21 (D,F,G,S) (S Griffiths) S Griffiths (GB) 10-12-0 .... G McCourt
5 /6P-540 OLAN LAD 35 (CD,S) (P Lehane) P Lehane 11-12-0 .... M Flynn
6 111251 ROC DE PRINCE 30 (D,G,S) (M Donovan) T Walsh 8-12-0 .... B Sheridan

BETTING: 5-4 Nick The Brief, 7-4 Norton's Coin, 4-1 Cahervillahow, 10-1 Roc De Prince, 16-1 Cloughtaney, 50-1 Olan Lad.

CAHERVILLAHOW beat Blitzkrieg 1l on *penultimate start here (2m 4f, heavy).* CLOUGHTANEY 4l 4th to On The Other Hand over course and distance (yielding). NICK THE BRIEF, who beat Carvill's Hill 5l in this race last year, returned to form when ¾l 2nd to Desert Orchid at Sandown (3m 118yd, good). NORTON'S COIN beat Toby Tobias ¾l in Cheltenham Gold Cup (3m 2f, good to firm) with NICK THE BRIEF pulled up; latest 10l 3rd to Celtic Shot at Cheltenham (3m 1f, good). OLAN LAD well-beaten 7th to Ebony Star over 2m 4f (yielding to soft) here. ROC DE PRINCE beat CAHERVILLAHOW (5lb better off) ¾l at Gowran Park (3m 170yd, yielding to soft).
Selection: NORTON'S COIN

WINDSOR

Selections

By Mandarin
1.30 The Shy Controller.
2.00 Granny Pray On.
2.30 Reve De Valse.
3.00 Espy.
3.30 Badrakhani.
4.00 High Ham Blues.
4.30 Hell Of A Guy.

By Thunderer
1.30 Barrica.
2.00 Run To Form.
2.30 Champagne Gold.
3.00 Espy.
3.30 Cyphrate.
4.00 High Ham Blues.
4.30 Hell Of A Guy.

Michael Seely's selection: 3.30 CYPHRATE (nap).

Brian Beel's selection: 4.00 Rodden Brook.

Going: soft (7.30 am inspection) **SIS**

1.30 SLOUGH NOVICES HURDLE (£2,072: 2m 30yd) (13 runners)

1 F CHIAROSCURO 78 (J Northover) P Hobbs 5-11-3 .... S Earle —
2 46/64-05 CLEVER DICK 17 (Mrs P Doskin) A Moore 6-11-3 .... G Moore ● 99
3 6P-0 JUST HILLGAR 16 (D Hillel) A Moore 6-11-3 .... W Morris —
4 0- THE BUTLER 315 (N Rimington) W G M Turner 5-11-3 .... J Neaves (7) —
5 6/4-654 THE SHY CONTROLLER 23 (B) (M Bateman) Mrs J Pitman 6-11-3 .... — 98
6 0 WELLINGTON BAY 49 (C Fayers) R Hodges 5-11-3 .... I Lawrence —
7 03P WOODLAND MINSTREL 23 (A White) M Pipe 6-11-3 .... P Scudamore 94
8 0PP-0P0 GINGER WINGS 23 (D Forshead) A Moore 7-10-12 .... — 81
9 0P/050-5 LIZZIES LASS 57 (Mrs L Craber) F Gray 8-10-12 .... M Crosse —
10 0/P SECOND HAND 30 (J Pilkington) J Pilkington 7-10-12 .... D Tegg —
11 0- WIN ELECTRIC 236 (Club For Europe) J Elliott 5-10-12 .... R Guest —
12 BILLYBITME (J De Mestre) P Hedger 4-10-7 .... M Richards —
13 05 BARRICA 14 (Mrs A Chapman) D Nicholson 4-10-2 .... R Dunwoody 97

BETTING: 5-2 Barrica, 3-1 Clever Dick, 4-1 Woodland Minstrel, 11-2 The Shy Controller, 10-1 Chiaroscuro, Wellington Bay, 12-1 others.

1990: MEETING ABANDONED - FLOODING

FORM FOCUS CHIAROSCURO fell at 3rd behind Book Of Gold at Sandown (2m, good to soft). CLEVER DICK one-paced 21l 5th of 14 behind Oneupmanship over course and distance (good).
THE SHY CONTROLLER 22l 4th of 13 to *Padaventure at Huntingdon (2m 4f, good to soft).* WOODLAND MINSTREL tailed off when pulled up before last behind Its Nearly Time at Newton Abbot (2m 5f 110yd, soft); previously distant 3rd to Forget The Rest at Nottingham (2m 6f, soft). LIZZIES LASS tailed off 5th behind Wagon Load at Plumpton (2m 4f, good to firm). WIN ELECTRIC 6th of 7 to Salids at Kilbeggan (2m 2f, good). BARRICA 25l 5th of 16 to Albertito at Stratford (2m, good).
Selection: THE SHY CONTROLLER

2.0 MAGNA CARTA NOVICES CHASE (£2,622: 2m 5f) (10 runners)

1 534/1-FP CANTAMEGA 47 (G) (Larkhall Natural Health Ltd) Mrs J Pitman 7-11-3 .... — —
2 131-023 FIFTH AMENDMENT 44 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs S Robins) Mrs J Pitman 6-11-3 .... — 96
3 12160-0 RUN TO FORM 28 (G,S) (Mrs R Allen) Mrs J Pitman 6-11-3 .... — —
4 SEEANITHERE (V Crumplin) J Elliott 8-11-3 .... R Guest —
5 P61// SEMAPHORE HILL 1663 (F) (R Wright) P Hobbs 7-11-3 .... B Clifford (7) —
6 3-21113 SQUADRON 51 (F,G,S) (Pipe Scudamore Racing Plc) M Pipe 8-11-3 .. P Scudamore —
7 463F01- STRONG GOLD 305 (F,S) (Mrs S Robins) Mrs J Pitman 8-11-3 .... — —
8 /U64-P0 TRAVISTOWN 16 (Mrs M Llewellyn) B Llewellyn 9-11-3 .... C Evans —
9 0024/P/ AMERICAN GIRL 786 (F,G,S) (Mrs V O'Brien) D O'Brien 12-10-12 .. Mr A Welsh (7) —
10 PB203-2 GRANNY PRAY ON 23 (S) (Whitcombe Manor Racing) R Akehurst 9-10-12 .. J Frost ● 99

BETTING: *11-4 Squadron, 7-2 Strong Gold, 4-1 Granny Pray On,* 6-1 Fifth Amendment, 8-1 Run To Form, 10-1 Cantamega, 12-1 others.

FORM FOCUS CANTAMEGA tailed off when pulled up before 10th behind Yellow Spring in handicap hurdle at Plumpton (2m 4f, good to soft); previously beat Into The Red 6l in novice hurdle at Stratford (2m 6f, good).
FIFTH AMENDMENT 17l 3rd to Parsons Green at Nottingham (2m 6f, good); previously beat The Vatman Cometh 2l in novice hurdle at Wincanton (2m, good to firm). RUN TO FORM never dangerous 33l 9th to Light Dancer in handicap hurdle at Kempton (2m 4f, good); previously comfortably beat Smiths Venture 10l in novice hurdle at Wolverhampton (2m 4f, soft). SEMAPHORE HILL got up in closing stages to beat Charlotte's Gift ½l in 4-runner novice hurdle at Huntingdon (2m 100yd, firm). SQUADRON weakened approaching last to finish 15l 3rd to Jimbalou in handicap hurdle at Wolverhampton (2m 6f 110yd, good to firm); previously hard ridden to beat Taglo a head in similar race at Stratford (2m 6f, good). STRONG GOLD easily beat The Shiner 10l in handicap hurdle at Chepstow (3m, good to firm). GRANNY PRAY ON jumped well when running-on 1½l 2nd to Tree Poppy over this trip at Newton Abbot (soft).
Selection: FIFTH AMENDMENT

2.30 HATCH BRIDGE HURDLE (4-Y-O: £2,427: 2m 30yd) (3 runners)

1 111 CHAMPAGNE GOLD 48 (D,G,S) (Mrs C Massey) J McConnochie 11-3 .... J Shortt 91
2 500 BAKHTARAN 35 (A Cohen) Mrs A King 10-10 .... R Dunwoody 58
3 422111 REVE DE VALSE 35 (D,G,S) (K Higson) Denys Smith 10-10 .... G Moore ● 99

BETTING: 5-4 Champagne Gold, 6-4 Reve De Valse, 20-1 Bakhtaran.

FORM FOCUS CHAMPAGNE GOLD beat Knight's Spur 8l at Leicester (2m, soft); previously beat Dewader 2½l at Haydock (2m, soft) with BAKHTARAN (same terms) 22½l 7th.
REVE DE VALSE opened account when beating Rhodes 8l at Nottingham (2m, good) *in December;* latest beat Wake Up 7l at Newcastle (2m, good to soft).
Selection: REVE DE VALSE

3.0 FAIRLAWNE CHASE (£7,405: 3m) (3 runners)

1 1F3-12P ESPY 52 (D,F,G,S) (R A Bott (Wigmore St) Ltd) C Brooks 8-11-8 .... P Scudamore ● 99
2 000-032 GOLD CAP 69 (G Meadows) C Brooks 8-11-4 .... — —
3 112226 KARAKTER REFERENCE 21 (D,F) (B Bolton) R O'Sullivan 9-11-4 ... D O'Sullivan (5) 94

BETTING: 4-6 Espy, 2-1 Karakter Reference, 3-1 Gold Cap.

FORM FOCUS ESPY easily beat Comandante 2l in a 3-runner handicap chase at Newbury (2m 4f, good to firm) on reappearance; latest pulled up behind Desert Orchid in the King George VI Rank Chase at Kempton (3m, good to soft).
GOLD CAP 2l 2nd to Turban Bleu at Auteuil (2m 5f 110yd, heavy). KARAKTER REFERENCE 8l 2nd of 8 to Blazing Walker at Ascot (2m 4f, good to soft) penultimate start; latest 20½l 6th of 19 to Dalkey Sound at Doncaster (3m 122yd, good).
Selection: ESPY

3.30 RUNNYMEDE HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,162: 2m 30yd) (11 runners)

1 52282U MIDFIELDER 30 (CD,S) (Bournstream '7') P Hobbs 5-11-10 .... S Earle 94
2 3F0-540 ALKINOR REX 28 (CD,S) (M Paraticos) M Francis 6-11-6 .... M Richards 89
3 11-F33 BLACK HUMOUR 84 (D,G,S) (R A Bott (Wigmore St) Ltd) C Brooks 7-11-4 B De Haan 95
4 304-122 BADRAKHANI 28 (CD,BF,G,S) (W Fagan) N Henderson 5-11-3 .... R Dunwoody 91
5 10-F CYPHRATE 30 (D,BF,S) (Alias Smith & Jones Ltd) M Pipe 5-10-13 .... P Scudamore 93
6 3334-40 L'UOMO PIU 21 (D,G) (L'Uomo Menswear Ltd) Mrs J Pitman 7-10-10 .... — 57
7 60/41-60 FLYING ZIAD 19 (D,F,G,S) (H Flouty) R Curtis 8-10-8 .... R Goldstein 93
8 2-21133 IVEAGH HOUSE 52 (D,BF,G,S) (Mrs S Robins) Mrs J Pitman 5-10-8 .... ● 99
9 1441-P0 TILT TECH FLYER 35 (D,S) (P De Weck) R Akehurst 6-10-0 .... C Llewellyn 88
10 0-056F2 SHARPGUN 14 (D,S) (V Young) V Young 5-10-0 .... A S Smith (5) 89
11 2/25P14- HATS HIGH 308 (CD,S) (Mrs J Gray) F Gray 6-10-0 .... M Crosse 83

Long handicap: Tilt Tech Flyer 9-13, Sharpgun 9-7, Hats High 9-4.

BETTING: 6-4 Cyphrate, 4-1 Iveagh House, 9-2 Badrakhani, 8-1 Midfielder, Black Humour, 10-1 L'Uomo Piu, 12-1 Alkinor Rex, 16-1 others.

FORM FOCUS MIDFIELDER 8l 2nd to None So Wise at Newbury (2m 4f 120yd, good) penultimate start. BLACK HUMOUR 3l 2nd of 5 to Fidway at Newbury (2m 100yd, good).
BADRAKHANI 1½l 2nd to Star Season at Kempton (2m, good) with *ALKINOR REX (9lb better off) 9½l* 8th. CYPHRATE made all to beat Native Scot 25l at Haydock (2m, soft) last season. FLYING ZIAD beat Midnight Strike a head at Newbury (2m 100yd, good to firm) final start last season. IVEAGH HOUSE beat Welshman 6l at Wolverhampton (2m, good) in November; latest 15½l 2nd of 11 to Olveston at Newton Abbot (2m 150yd, soft) with ALKINOR REX (3lb better off) 10l 4th. TILT TECH FLYER beat Le Chat Noir 1½l at Folkestone (2m 100yd, soft) last *February. SHARPGUN ½l 2nd to Dramatic Event at* Stratford (2m, good). HATS HIGH beat Curious Feeling 8l over course and distance last season.
Selection: IVEAGH HOUSE

4.0 THAMES VALLEY HUNTERS CHASE (Amateurs: £1,925: 2m 5f) (10 runners)

1 F13451/ AKRAM 799 (C,F,G,S) (S Allen) R Hodges 13-12-7 .... T Piper (7) —
2 111P14- HIGH HAM BLUES 323 (F,G,S) (R Goodall) R Goodall 9-12-7 .... R Goodall (7) ● 99
3 12P13P- RODDEN BROOK 259 (F,G,S) (Mrs H Tutte) Mrs H Tutte 9-12-7 .... P MacEwan (7) 79
4 P/46606- BALLYSHEEHAN 213 (F,G) (P Blackwell) P Blackwell 13-12-0 .... S Blackwell —
5 152/2P-P DOUBLE TURN 15 (D,F,S) (D Harding-Jones) Mrs E Heath 10-12-0 P Harding-Jones (5) 77
6 U/14/6P- FOXBOROUGH LAD 359 (G) (K Hicks) K Hicks 12-12-0 .... T Woolridge (7) —
7 P/640/6 FRENCHMANS FANCY 15 (S) (R Jenks) N Gaselee 10-12-0 .... G Oxley (7) —
8 U6F4U0/ FUNCHEN VIEW 658 (F,S) (S Astaire) S Astaire 11-12-0 .... S Astaire (7) —
9 66F/4/2- PRIVATEPERFORMANCE 348 (S) (W Brown) W Brown 9-12-0 .... A Hickman (7) 78
10 4210P/4- SCHLEMMER 348 (F,S) (M Goode) M Goode 9-12-0 .... J Trice-Rolph (7) —

BETTING: 4-6 High Ham Blues, 3-1 Rodden Brook, 4-1 Frenchmans Fancy, 8-1 Privateperformance, 8-1 Schlemmer, 10-1 Akram, Ballysheehan, 12-1 others.

FORM FOCUS AKRAM beat Fred The Tread ¾l at Cheltenham (2m, good) in December 1988. HIGH HAM BLUES beat En Gounesi Theon 6l at Devon (3m 1f, good to firm) on penultimate start.
RODDEN BROOK, a winner of a similar event at Chepstow (3m, good to firm) last season, subsequently 15l 3rd to Sanballat at Worcester (3m, good to soft). FRENCHMANS FANCY 45l 8th to Mountain Crash at Bangor (3m, soft) with DOUBLE TURN pulled up. FUNCHEN VIEW was in good form in the point-to-point sphere last season, his best effort coming when successful at Aintree (firm) in April. *PRIVATEPERFORMANCE 8l 2nd to Some* Obligation at Leicester (2m, good to soft). SCHLEMMER 22l 4th to Parroquet at Leicester (2m 4f, good to soft).
Selection: HIGH HAM BLUES

4.30 HENLEY NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,954: 1m 4f) (14 runners)

1 FAIR CROSSING (Mrs B Samuel) C Brooks 5-11-9 .... — —
2 FINO (Mrs S Robins) Mrs J Pitman 5-11-9 .... — —
3 TRIPLE WITCHING (Mrs S Robins) Mrs J Pitman 5-11-9 .... — —
4 1 HELL OF A GUY 42 (S) (K Higson) Denys Smith 4-11-7 .... P Waggott (7) —
5 BELMOREVIXEN (Mrs A Hartnett) M Francis 5-11-4 .... I Lawrence —
6 INCHINA (J Allen) J Allen 5-11-4 .... — —
7 6 OCEAN GOER 71 (J Pilkington) J Pilkington 5-11-4 .... M Foster (7) —
8 53 FINELY BALANCED 19 (Albury Racing Limited) R Curtis 4-11-0 .... — —
9 MIAMI SPLASH (G Weekes) *P Hobbs 4-11-0* .... *C Maude (3)* —
10 NORTHERN SADDLER (R Evans) R Hodges 4-11-0 .... T Thompson (7) —
11 BELLEZZA (K Higson) Denys Smith 4-10-9 .... D Crosseman (7) —
12 GLADYS EMMANUEL (T Pocock) R Pocock 4-10-9 .... B Clifford (7) —
13 2 LA SUSIANE 15 (Miss A Jones) G Thorner 4-10-9 .... D Bridgwater (7) —
14 MISS DECKERWAY (B O'Brien) D O'Brien 4-10-9 .... Mr A Welsh (7) —

BETTING: 1-2 Hell Of A Guy, 9-2 Fino, 5-1 Triple Watching, 6-1 Fair Crossing, 9-1 La Susiane, 12-1 *Finely Balanced, 14-1 Miami Splash,* 16-1 Northern Saddler, 25-1 others.

Course specialists

TRAINERS

	Winners	Runners	Per cent
N Henderson	8	25	32.0
M Pipe	8	29	27.6
Mrs J Pitman	8	38	21.1
R Akehurst	9	44	20.5
P Hobbs	6	30	20.0
P Hedger	6	31	19.4

JOCKEYS

	Winners	Rides	Per cent
P Scudamore	8	39	20.5
M Richards	8	54	14.8
R Dunwoody	9	74	12.2
R Goldstein	9	86	10.5

Only qualifiers

LINGFIELD PARK

Selections

By Mandarin
1.25 Pims Classic.
1.55 Chronological.
2.25 Damaskeen.
2.55 Rapporteur.
3.25 Just One.
3.55 LADY PHILIPPA (nap).

By Thunderer
1.25 BEE BEAT (nap).
1.55 French Legionnaire.
2.25 Ever So Artistic.
2.55 Rapporteur.
3.25 Peggy Spare.
3.55 Lady Philippa.

By Michael Seely
3.20 Rapporteur. 4.20 Lady Philippa.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 2.15 CHRONOLOGICAL.

Going: standard Draw: 5f-1m, low to middle numbers best **SIS**

1.45 WAVELL MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,391: 6f) (8 runners)

1 (2) 200- BEE BEAT 109 (Austin Stroud & Co) E Wheeler 9-0 .... W Newnes 91
2 (3) 00402-5 CASTCAREAWAY 42 (B,BF) (A Richards) C Austin 9-0 .... B Doyle (7) 96
3 (4) 0-6 MIDNIGHT SAGA 14 (Lady St George) M Prescott 9-0 .... G Duffield —
4 (7) 226-532 OAK PARK 21 (C Garrad) R Stubbs 9-0 .... J Williams 86
5 (8) 0422- PIMS CLASSIC 86 (Pims International) W Haggas 9-0 .... R Hills ● 99
6 (6) 0600-46 TELLMEABOUTIT 29 (V) (S Roots) Mrs N Macauley 9-0 .... N Adams —
7 (5) 0630-65 MISDEMEANOURS GIRL 17 (Miss D Wheatley) M Channon 8-9 .... J Quinn 70
8 (1) 0- PERSPECTIVE 80 (M Tompkins) M Tompkins 9-0 .... C Hodgson (5) —

BETTING: 100-30 Pims Classic, 7-2 Castcareaway, 4-1 Oak Park, 11-2 Bee Beat, 8-1 Perspective, 12-1 Midnight Saga, 16-1 Tellmeaboutit, Misdemeanours Girl.

1990: PRIOR CHARGE 3-8-4 S O'Gorman (14-1) Pat Mitchell 8 ran

2.15 HORROCKS CLAIMING STAKES (£2,716: 1m 4f) (11 runners)

1 (3) 305125- *FACT OR FICTION 51 (V,C,F)* (Miss B Sanders) Miss B Sanders 5-9-3 W Newnes 88
2 (5) 1233-01 CHRONOLOGICAL 11 (C,V) (H Kidd & Rennie Ltd) Tompkins 5-8-11 *C Hodgson (5)* ● 98
3 (2) 04001-5 FRENCH LEGIONNAIRE 14 (F) (Miss N Carroll) Mrs S Armytage 4-8-10 J Williams 89
4 (7) 00/600- FULL HEARTED 288 (C,S) (Mrs A Gallyer) W Musson 7-8-9 .... A Mackay 75
5 (1) 040506- BOX OFFICE 108 (R Baker) J Baker 4-8-9 .... N Adams 73
6 (9) 0030/0 MUMMY 15 (D Moon) D Gandolfo 5-8-6 .... A McGlone 76
7 (6) 5555-2 FIRST STAGE 11 (Randolph House Ltd) I Campbell 4-8-5 .... D Biggs (5) 98
8 (8) 064/00-5 LUCKY CRYSTAL 14 (F) (Mrs E Kiernan) A Moore 5-8-2 .... J Quinn 92
9 (10) 02440/0- MARSH HARRIER 72 (C,F) (F Hill) A Moore 10-8-1 .... Candy Morris —
10 (11) 00-0 ROSCOES DINKY 28 (R Wilkins) W Turner 4-7-11 .... S Hawkes (7) —
11 (4) 045400- BURSANA 17J (G) (Mrs G Allen) J Spearing 5-7-10 .... G Bardwell 78

BETTING: 13-8 Chronological, 7-2 First Stage, 4-1 Fact Or Fiction, 5-1 French Legionnaire, 15-2 Mummy, 16-1 Lucky Crystal.

1990: SUPER GUNNER 5-9-1 W Ryan (100-30 fav) M Fetherston-Godley 13 ran

2.50 ALEXANDER HANDICAP (£2,820: 5f) (7 runners)

1 (1) 00331-2 ASSIGNMENT 21 (C,F) (A Gorrie) J Ffitch-Heyes 5-10-0 .... T Quinn 94
2 (2) 505-31 MY SCENE 14 (C) (A Richards) C Austin 6-8-7 .... B Doyle (7) ● 99
3 (3) 265-533 MAID WELCOME 3 (B,D,F) (S Roots) Mrs N Macauley 4-8-2. Emma O'Gorman (5) 97
4 (4) 06125-1 DAMASKEEN 21 (C,D,F) (Miss N Carroll) Mrs S Armytage 5-8-0 .... J Williams 97
5 (6) 0601-13 EVER SO ARTISTIC 21 (V,BF,CD) (M Orpen-Palmer) P Howling 4-8-3 .... C Rutter 97
6 (5) 63-4603 HALVOYA 11 (CD,F,G) (Mrs P Badger) J Spearing 6-8-1 .... G Bardwell 98
7 (7) 000006- DEEP REEF 81J (S) (Mrs M Rowe) J Baker 5-7-10 .... N Adams 97

BETTING: 9-4 Assignment, 100-30 My Scene, 4-1 Damaskeen, 9-2 Ever So Artistic, 9-1 Maid Welcome, 12-1 Halvoya, 50-1 Deep Reef.

1990: BECKINGHAM BEN 6-8-8 Dean McKeown (5-2 jt-fav) J Leigh 8 ran

Guide to our in-line racecard

1 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 .... B West (7) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing; F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — *distance* winner. CD — *course* and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

3.20 SLIM HANDICAP (£4,269: 1m 2f) (8 runners)

1 (5) 1131-21 RAPPORTEUR 28 (CD,F) (R Berenson) C Elsey 5-10-0 .... W Newnes 94
2 (6) 404-310 BANKROLL 22 (C,F) (R Cyzer) C Cyzer 4-9-2 .... Dean McKeown 93
3 (7) 23162-1 DR MACCARTER 42 (B,CD) (McDonnell) W O'Gorman 4-8-11 Emma O'Gorman (5) 95
4 (4) 134500- EL VOLADOR 25J (F) (M Garrido) M Channon 4-8-0 .... J Quinn 89
5 (1) 5046-64 WINDSOR PARK 14 (C,D,G) (B Bolton) R O'Sullivan 5-7-11 .... D Biggs (5) 98
6 (3) 055-153 PATIENCE CREEK 14 (CD,S) (Rockhouse Stud) C Wildman 5-7-7 .... B Doyle (7) 94
7 (8) 005523- LAWNSWOOD JUNIOR 103 (F) (G Treglown) J Spearing 4-7-7 .... G Bardwell ● 99
8 (2) 126636- XHAI 36J (B,D,F,S) (Derlam Racing) R Simpson 9-7-7 .... A Tucker (7) 88

Long handicap: Patience Creek 7-4, Lawnswood Junior 7-2, Xhai 7-1.

BETTING: 15-8 Rapporteur, 5-2 Dr Maccarter, 10-3 Bankroll, 6-1 Patience Creek, 15-2 Windsor Park, 10-1 *El Volador, 16-1 Xhai, 25-1 Lawnswood Junior.*

1990: SANDICLIFFE STAR 4-9-12 M Hills (11-10 fav) B Hills 7 ran

3.50 ALANBROOKE CLAIMING STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,521: 1m) (7 runners)

1 (4) PEGGY SPARE (I Rivenaes) Miss B Sanders 9-0 .... W Newnes —
2 (1) 0- KEEP IN TRIM 183 (G Cannon) D Marks 8-6 .... S Dawson —
3 (3) 5 OLD SPECKLED HEN 28 (C Beck) M Fetherston-Godley 8-4 .... W Ryan 82
4 (2) 5024-04 JUST ONE 21 (V) (K Styles) M McCormack 9-1 .... C Rutter ● 99
5 (7) 500000- MING COURT 108 (P Ang) S Dow 8-0 .... A Munro 96
6 (6) 000-505 PETER PUMPKIN 14 (Mrs J Laycock) R Voorspuy 7-13 .... Jaid Houston (7) 85
7 (5) 50350-4 MIDSUMMER COMMON 14 (Mrs E Kiernan) A Moore 7-8 .... J Quinn 94

BETTING: 11-4 Just One, 3-1 Ming Court, 7-2 Old Speckled Hen, 11-2 Peggy Spare, 6-1 Midsummer Common, 10-1 Keep In Trim, 14-1 Peter Pumpkin.

1990: AUTOBIRD 3-8-11 R Morse (6-4 jt-fav) C Allen 5 ran

4.20 MONTGOMERY HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £2,820: 1m) (7 runners)

1 (7) 35125-4 MARTINI EXECUTIVE 45 (F) (R Humbles) W Pearce 9-7 .... G Husband (5) 92
2 (6) 32-1 LADY PHILIPPA 21 (CD) (Lady Suffolk) B Hills 9-0 .... Dean McKeown 90
3 (2) 46602-1 BLAZING BELLE 42 (B,C) (Orchid Racing Ltd) M Usher 8-10 .... G Bardwell 99
4 (3) 0004-22 MERITSU 35 (E) (D Elsworth) D Elsworth 8-2 .... D McCabe (7) 93
5 (4) 303-5 RAINBOW CHASER 35 (F Salman) P Cole 7-13 .... — 94
6 (5) 000-5 GERALIA 25 (K Ulrich) C Elsey 7-9 .... N Adams 95
7 (1) 0600-10 BROUGHTON BLUES 11 (C) (Broughton Insulation) W Musson 7-7 .... B Doyle (7) ● 98

Long handicap: Broughton Blues 7-6

BETTING: 4-5 Lady Philippa, 11-2 Blazing Belle, 6-1 Meritsu, 13-2 Martini Executive, 8-1 Rainbow Chaser, 10-1 Broughton Blues, 16-1 Geralia.

1990: SUPER ONE 3-8-2 Alex Greaves (2-1 fav) T Barron 8 ran

Course specialists

TRAINERS

	Winners	Runners	Per cent
Mrs S Armytage	1	2	50.0
B Hills	10	27	37.0
M Prescott	7	21	33.3
W Pearce	6	21	28.6
W O'Gorman	9	34	26.5
C Cyzer	3	15	20.0

JOCKEYS

	Winners	Rides	Per cent
Emma O'Gorman	7	22	31.8
G Husband	3	10	30.0
B Doyle	4	17	23.5
C Hodgson	1	5	20.0
G Duffield	15	80	18.8
T Quinn	20	109	18.3

Veteran Flying Ace to star

By BRIAN BEEL

FLYING Ace, Doreen Calder's legendary 15-year-old hunter attempts to gain his 54th success at the **Lanarkshire and Renfrewshire** point-to-point today.

Last February, after winning *at Corbridge, he* ran six days later in a hunter chase at Edinburgh, damaged a fetlock and was retired. After a season's hunting with the Berwickshire, however, he has done so well that the Calder family is letting him continue the sport he so obviously enjoys.

I fully expect to see him win again in the ladies' open, where the chief danger may be another veteran Mossy Moore. In the mens' event, last year's winner, Ready Steady, is difficult to oppose.

My sympathy at this meeting is extended to the racecourse commentator with Anothanothaknotha contesting the restricted *race. He will* no doubt be hoping that this one is not involved in a close finish, but the form horses, Tudorfield Girl and Roughside, should prove the main protagonists.

Sheila Nash's Jimster, has already one race under his belt after a trip to Cornwall a fortnight ago. Today, he could make a slightly shorter journey from his stable, just outside Wantage, to the *Dart Vale* and **South Pool** where, in the first division of the open, he has Robert Alner's Ponteus Pilot to beat.

In the second division at the *Ottery St Mary venue, the* Newton Abbot hunter chase winner Meister looked the pick.

For A Lark's season last year was curtailed early in March due to an injury sustained in a horsebox accident. Now fully recovered, the mount of Mandy Turner should extend his winning sequence of 15 in the ladies' race.

After an inspection yesterday, the **Cambridgeshire Harriers** *and the United Services joined* the **Lincolnshire Hunt Club** and the **Wheatland** in being cancelled.

The Cambridgeshire Harriers has been rearranged for April 18, while other postponed meetings with new dates are the **Oxford University** to be held next Friday, the **Suffolk** on Saturday and the **Sinnington** on April 6. The **East Cornwall**, postponed from last Saturday, is *racing at Great Trethew on* Monday.

TODAY'S MEETINGS: Dartford Vale and South Pool, Ottery St Mary, 1 mile south west of town (12.0 start); Lanarkshire & Renfrewshire, Bogside, 1m N of Irvine (1.30).

Tasmim gives Tulk fairytale start

Tulk: quickly off mark as trainer

PAUL Tulk made a fairytale beginning to his training career at Southwell yesterday when Tasmim, his first runner, was a runaway winner.

The four-year-old, supported from 16-1 to 9-1, made all the running in the Mansfield Chad *Maiden Stakes, partnered by* Tulk's godson Willie Ryan, and was eased down in the final strides to beat Taroudant by four lengths.

Tulk, who rode 800 winners at home and abroad before retiring from the saddle in 1988, was engulfed by well-wishers after the race. "It is unbelievable. I thought she would be a bit short of work as she's been held up for the last ten days, but I was obviously wrong," said a smiling Tulk.

Tulk was assistant to Robert Armstrong for five years before taking out a *licence* just over a month ago. Tasmim, who cost 68,000 guineas as a yearling, was at St Gatien Stables during his time, and Tulk snapped her up for 1,400gns at the Newmarket December Sales.

Tulk, who has a team of ten at Amber Due Stables in Newmarket including eight two-year-olds, will next look for a handicap at Southwell for Tasmim.

Tyrnippy and Parliamentary landed a 186-1 *double* to end a five-month barren spell for their Yorkshire trainer Mel Brittain.

Tyrnippy, the stable's last winner when taking a seller here last September, stormed away to beat the 2-1 *favourite* Cosimo by four lengths in the Thoresby Claiming Stakes.

Results from Southwell

Going: standard

1.55 (1m 6f) 1, **WINDWARD ARIOM** (N Kennedy, 6-1); 2, **Beau Quest** (S Perks, 4-1 jt-fav); 3, **Lafkadio** (D Nicholls, 4-1 jt-fav); 4, **Qualitair Blazer** (A Munro, 12-1). ALSO RAN: 8 Mighty Glow, 10 Sulvez Moi, 12 Bywell Lad (5th), Sporting Lass, 14 Windy Howe, Kolinsky (6th), Wylam, Nocturnal Reverie, 16 Sharp Runner, 33 Prince Aldo, Quessard, Ilewin, Isobar. 17 ran. NR: Clwyd Lodge. 6l, 8l, 1½l, 2l, ½l. D Topley at Ebn. Tote: £6.70; £1.80, £1.10, £1.60, £7.70. DF: £13.00. CSF: £32.10. Tricast: £104.31.

2.25 (1m 3f) 1, **TYRNIPPY** (S Maloney, 10-1); 2, **Cosimo** (D Nicholls, 2-1 fav); 3, **Hand Painted** (S Dawson, 6-1). ALSO RAN: 5 Red Pencil, 6 Timid (5th), 13-2 Marandisa, 9 Comedy River (6th), 10 Great Gusto, Margs Girl, 20 Towny Boy, Give In, Mia Fillia (4th), 33 Diamond Singh. 13 ran. 4l, sh hd, 4l, 2, nk. M Brittain at Warthill. Tote: £9.80; £3.80, £1.70, £1.30. DF: £25.70. CSF: £34.80.

2.55 (1m 3f) 1, **TASMIM** (W Ryan, 9-1); 2, **Taroudant** (S Perks, 9-2); 3, **Scarlet Express** (A Bates, 8-1). ALSO RAN: 7-2 fav Bhudhud (6th), 11-2 Tiempo, 8 Siobhan Marie, 9 Primatica, 12 Outstanding Bill, Risk Factor, Raw Talent (4th), Adeline Lynn, 16 Straight Laced, 20 City Index, 33 Ibn Naas (5th), Runktagain. 15 ran. NR: Native Mission. 4l, 8l, 6l, 2½l, 1½l. P Tulk at Newmarket. Tote: £12.70; £2.40, £1.60, £3.90. DF: £64.00. CSF: £54.47.

3.25 (6f) 1, **SUPER BENZ** (J Fanning, 8-1); 2, **Tapkama** (S Perks, 12-1); 3, **Young Shadowfax** (Mick Denaro, 12-1). ALSO RAN: 4-5 fav Sally's Son (5th), 11-4 Hensom Lad, 12 Welsey Lad (6th), 33 Golden Della (4th). 7 ran. 10l, 2½l, ½l, nk, 1½l. T Fairhurst at Middleham. Tote: £9.90; £3.00, £3.50. DF: £32.80. CSF: £80.79.

3.55 (1m) 1, ***PARLIAMENTARY*** (P Sedgwick, 16-1); 2, **Coussac Flyer** (A Munro, 20-1); 3, **Berries Pet** (R Hills, 9-2). ALSO RAN: 11-10 fav Paint The Lily (5th), *4 Roberty Lea (5th), 11-2 Detour (4th),* 20 China Sky, 33 Classic Court, Hush Katie, 50 Glowing Mantle. 10 ran. 8l, 8l, 2½l, 3½l, 4l. M Brittain at Warthill. Tote: £24.70; £3.90, £5.30, £1.30. DF: £35.90. CSF: £248.72.

4.25 (7f) 1, **DOULAB'S IMAGE** (S D Williams, 20-1); 2, **Miss Knight** (H Bastiman, 14-1); †3, **Tulfarris** (S Perks, 33-1); †3, **Vite Vite** (Paul Eddery, 14-1). ALSO RAN: 3 fav African Chimes (5th), 5 Crosby, Charly Pharly, 9 Mr Cheekychops, 10 Hard Sell, 11 Silly's Brother (6th), 16 Vintage Type, Falland, 20 Cookulah, 25 Danny Blanchflower, 33 Ayodessa, 50 Moor Frolicking. 16 ran. 5l, ¾l, dd-ht, 2l, 2½l. J Glover at Carburton. Tote: £13.70; £2.80, £2.90, Tulfarris £8.90, Vite Vite £2.40. DF: £61.20. CSF: £259.72. Tricasts: Doulab's Image, Miss Knight, Tulfarris £4 020.59; Doulab's Image, Miss Knight, Vite Vite £1,828.85. After a stewards' enquiry, result stood.

Placepot: £3,473.80.

● Ladbrokes yesterday accepted a wager of £50,000 to £10,000 for the Cheltenham Gold Cup, and the grey has been cut to 4-1.

Racing next week

MONDAY: Fontwell Park, Wolverhampton, Southwell (AW).
TUESDAY: Huntingdon, Sedgefield, Lingfield Park (AW).
WEDNESDAY: Warwick, Catterick Bridge, Southwell (AW).
THURSDAY: Wincanton, Folkestone, Lingfield Park (AW).
FRIDAY: Kempton Park, Kelso, Southwell (AW).
SATURDAY: Kempton Park, Doncaster, Stratford, Edinburgh, Lingfield Park (AW).

(Flat meetings in bold)

Royal filly at Cagnes

THE royal colours will be in evidence at Cagnes tomorrow, when the Queen's filly Church Missionary (Guy Guignard) runs in the £5,895 Prix de Bastia over 1½ miles.

Church Missionary was scheduled to make her seasonal debut in another race eight days ago, but the meeting was abandoned.

● Alex Scott's Run For Nick (William Mongil) finished sixth behind Indice in yesterday's £5,641 Prix de Castellane at Cagnes.

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Sri Lanka's Kuruppu leaves the A-team cricketers to sweat it out in the field

England swing back into contention by the close

From RICHARD STREETON
IN COLOMBO

UNTIL the last 45 minutes England A had reason to wonder whether their policy of playing only four bowlers had come unstuck yesterday when the second five-day international began here. *Sri Lanka* won the toss and gave every indication on a pitch that became more and more lifeless that they had set their sights on batting for two-and-a-half days.

Fortunately for England, they captured two late wickets and by the close Sri Lanka were 205 for three. Brendon Kuruppu finished 116 not out and drove and pulled attractively between bouts of inactivity. He and Gamini Wickramasinghe added 152 in 63 overs for the second wicket before England's important late successes.

Kuruppu was 61, and the score 107, when he offered a return catch which Salisbury could not hold. Wickramasinghe was 27, and the total 148, when Fairbrother at first slip missed a chance off Pick. Otherwise, England bowled with commendable control *and fielded wholeheartedly on* one of the hottest and most humid days of the tour.

Sri Lanka's unambitious approach meant the run-rate never reached an average of 2.5 an over, and this helped to disguise any deficiency in the England bowling strength. Without an all-rounder in the tour party, England, of course, are limited in options.

Reward for accuracy: Salisbury, who took two Sri Lankan wickets for England A

Initially, it was permissible to wonder whether they had taken a gamble with the *unexpected inclusion of the* untried Salisbury in preference to Illingworth. The thinking was that Salisbury's greater spin would be more of an asset and that three seamers were essential on a pitch expected to have some pace.

As things worked out, the pitch after the first hour was slower than expected. Salisbury bowled well and proved economical. Ramprakash contributed 17 tidy overs and, in the last analysis, England got away with it.

As expected they preferred the left-arm Ilott to Munton, which meant a second, inexperienced bowler. Ilott showed pace in two spells and swung the ball away late, but has not yet developed the one that comes back in. Sri Lanka, all of whose bowlers have shown ability as batsmen, made five changes, three of them enforced, from the first Test.

It was ironical that Gamini Wickramasinghe should succeed in an anchor role for Sri Lanka as he nearly lost his place as wicketkeeper because a rival, Nisal Fernando, was considered a better batsman.

His arrival at No. 3 was unexpected. He came in after Dileepa Wickramasinghe drove a full toss from Salisbury to Hussain at extra cover. Kuruppu's chance also came off a full toss but the second-wicket pair generally looked solid. By tea the total was only 139 for one after four hours.

Pick extracted some life in his third spell and Gamini Wickramasinghe's chance to first slip looked straightforward. Kuruppu reached 101, out of 183, before his partner hit across another full toss from Salisbury and was leg-before.

Newport looked the best of the England seamers earlier, but was tired when England took a new ball at 197 for two. Pick, though, in his first over, found a splendid outswinger which Premasiri followed and was caught behind. By the end Kuruppu had faced 265 balls and hit 19 fours.

SRI LANKA: First innings

D S B Kuruppu not out	116
D Wickramasinghe c Hussain b Salisbury	17
G Wickramasinghe lbw b Salisbury	51
H Premasiri c Rhodes b Pick	0
M Attapattu not out	1
Extras (lb 3, nb 17)	20
Total (for 3 wkts)	205

R Kalpage, R Juranpathy, S H U Karnain, C Edirimanne, S Anangama and P Wijetunga to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-45, 2-197, 3-198.

BOWLING: Pick 14-3-37-1; Ilott 12-3-36-0; Newport 18-6-34-0; Salisbury 26-8-50-2; Ramprakash 17-7-37-0; Thorpe 3-1-8-0.

Umpires: W A U Wickramasinghe and B C Cooray.

Canterbury lose way

CHRISTCHURCH (Reuter) — Their opening batsmen put them on course for a big first-innings total, but Canterbury *lost their* way *against Sri Lanka* on the firstday of a four-day match yesterday.

The local side was 237 for five wickets at the close, after a confident 105 runs in 138 minutes from the openers, David Boyle and Blair Hartland. Rain delayed the start of play for two hours, but *temperatures eventually* soared to 30 C.

The pair appeared set to stay in for most of the day but after the afternoon drinks break, Hartland was trapped leg-before wicket on his crease by Asoka de Silva. Boyle followed when he was caught *11* runs *later, failing* to get over a cut shot off Kapila Wijegunawardene.

Only Justin Boyle (47) built on the platform provided by the openers. He survived a catching chance in the slips at two before unveiling many fine strokes.

Priest and Darrin Murray (29 not out) consolidated the innings with an unbroken 50-run partnership to the close.

SCORES: Canterbury 237-5 (B Hartland 57, J Boyle 47, K Wijegunawardene 2 for 54, Asoka de Silva 2 for 60).

Crawley thinks 112 not enough

From a CORRESPONDENT
IN NEW PLYMOUTH

AN EXCELLENT century by John Crawley, the England captain, was the highlight of a good batting performance by England Under-19 on the penultimate day of the second youth Test *match against New Zealand* Under-19 at Pukakura Park.

England made 389 in their first innings in reply to New Zealand's 343 for nine declared. In the last session, England dismissed Blackmore and so New Zealand ended the day on 12 for one, still 34 runs behind.

Crawley and Radford had resumed their partnership at England's overnight score of 121 for one.

The partnership was broken when Stead, a leg spinner, had Crawley caught by Nash for 112. It had been a fine century, but the captain was annoyed with himself that, on a pitch that was becoming progressively easier paced, he had perhaps missed out on a big hundred.

Radford and Habib took the score to 210 when Wilson produced an in-swinging yorker to take Radford's leg stump. Weston soon began to drive powerfully and had moved on to 48 with a six and a four in the last over before tea when he fell trying an over-ambitious shot.

NEW ZEALAND UNDER-19: First innings

S Blackmore c and b Smith	94
M Hart lbw b Chapple	20
L Howell c Weston b Chapple	24
S Fleming st Shaw b Smith	29
N Astle c Butcher b Broadhurst	25
G Stead b Weston	34
J Furlong not out	52
D Nash b Weston	14
J Wilson c Shaw b Weston	4
K Brown c Shaw b Broadhurst	1
R Hart not out	23
Extras (b 6, lb 10, w 6, nb 1)	23
Total (9 wkts dec)	343

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-32, 2-72, 3-140, 4-187, 5-222, 6-263, 7-297, 8-308, 9-309.

BOWLING: Weston 21-6-75-3; Broadhurst 28-6-84-2; Lowrey 11-3-39-0; Chapple 23-4-57-2; Hawkes 19-4-47-0; Smith 13-5-22-2.

Second innings

S Blackmore c Shaw b Broadhurst	3
M Hart not out	8
R Hart not out	1
Extras	0
Total (1 wkt)	12

ENGLAND UNDER-19: First innings

T A Radford b Wilson	68
B F Smith b Brown	3
J P Crawley c Nash b Stead	112
Aftab Habib c R Hart b Wilson	41
M A Butcher c Howell b Hart	3
W P C Weston c M Hart b Stead	48
M J Lowrey c Astle b Stead	38
G Chapple c R Hart b Nash	22
A D Shaw b Nash	5
C J Hawkes c Wilson b Stead	21
M Broadhurst not out	5
Extras (b 8, lb 12, w 1, nb 2)	23
Total	389

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-7, 2-182, 3-210, 4-220, 5-250, 6-316, 7-337, 8-352, 9-373.

BOWLING: Wilson 29-10-77-2; Brown 20-4-37-1; Furlong 2-0-2-0; Nash 20-3-69-2; Hart 29-12-62-1; Stead 42-13-114-4; Astle 2-0-8-0.

Fashion floodgates open for business

LAURA THOMPSON

The day England played the Cameroon football team at Wembley was a day of such chill that one was *tempted to hibernate inside* one's fridge; and in the *salons* of sporting journalism, a topical quip was being aired. "What's Barnesy going to be wearing tonight, then? An overcoat?"

For indeed, John Barnes has of late been playing a variation of strip poker, the variation being that instead of divesting himself of clothes he puts them on. Each week reveals less of him as some new garment covers some new area of his person. First, the red cycling shorts. Then, the black tights. Then, the strangler's gloves. Next, the bobble hat and matching scarf set.

I went to stage school (yes, indeed; that is how I know so much about sport) where the regulation ballet uniform was black leotard, pale tights, simple, dull. But one subtly iconoclastic term saw the introduction of little additions to this unadorned severity: the legwarmers worn around the ankles, the school jumper tied around the waist, the plastic trousers to make you sweat, the little skirt.

It was a bit like living near Carnaby Street in 1967. Each *new fashion* left less bright sparks miserably monochrome in the face of such inventiveness and style. Each seemed so very right at the time and exercised a mocking tyranny over one's own Bertie Bassett appearance. Each went on to reveal, in the fullness of time, its faint absurdity.

This is what I was reminded of when I saw John Barnes in his red strip, plus accessories. All right, no doubt Steve McMahon is not tormenting himself with thoughts of "Oh, if only I had a pair of strangler's gloves" but I predict that the fashion influence of Barnes will inexorably filter through into the lower leagues, thence to the amateur clubs.

Unpleasant accusations will break out among quantity-surveyors regarding post-match hosiery thefts. Estate agents will villify their wives for having omitted to sew a name tag inside their cycling shorts.

Like Ford cars, cycling shorts initially came only in black, but now they are can tone with the proper shorts that go on top of them ("Grobbelaar's are green, Blanco's are blue, They look quite silly, And so would you").

Who would have believed that such a thing could catch on? Who would have believed that football and rugby players could be as suscep*tible as a 15-year-old girl* desperate for a pair of plastic trousers to make you sweat? How could anyone not riding a bike want to wear cycling shorts? Where will it all end? Just how did sports clothes become The World of Leisure Wear?

Some years ago, until, say, the late Seventies, sports clothes were sensible and unattractive, the implication being that the body inside them was so perfect that, like a lily, it needed no gilding. Around this time, the rugby kit section of my brother's wardrobe was, I am sorry to have to say, a rather nasty jumble of hooded adidas "tops" in grey or yellow; American tourist sneakers; 17 corrugated iron socks; a tank top that had gone in the wrong wash and come out marbled pink; materials for making a gumshield; and hundreds of pairs of elephant-colour shorts, which would be regularly examined as to their feasibility.

At a later date, my brother told me that he reserved the more glamorous shorts for "away games". I myself had a tracksuit that was like all tracksuits were then — royal blue with a white stripe up the sides of the uncontrollably clinging trouser legs, and with a top that zipped, bulged and clung.

But then fitness floated itself on the stock exchange that was the 1980s. Its marketing potential was recognised and it went public. Anyone could get fit, carolled the hype, with the right videos, diet books, classes and clothes. This was true in perhaps one in a hundred cases, but the other 99 still bought all the gear. The rise of the tyrannical Sport Designer Label had begun.

The training wardrobe no longer harboured a greying *miasma* of garments that looked like they were worn by Richard Harris in *This Sporting Life*; no, it now contains priceless artefacts (*Antiques Roadshow*, the year 2050: "Now if you look here you will see the word 'Reebok'. I expect you were wondering what that means?"). We may no longer be at the mercy of Parisian couture but we are putty in the hands of Puma.

That is what has happened. Sport, or "Leisure", has become the great fashion leader and sportspersons, not models, are used to advert*ise the stuff*. It makes sense since they are the reason why people buy it. In those clothes, they represent a potent image — because they are wearing a glamorised version of *training kit*, the effort that goes into producing their perfect bodies is visually implied.

The image, therefore, says that although they are the best at what they do, and in that sense out of reach, we can still jog along beside them in a spirit of fellow-feeling. And wearing all the gear enables this enjoyably mixed feeling of hero-worship and identification.

By the time I left school, the senior ballet classes were filled with girls wearing lycra catsuits which glowed in the dark. Similarly, now that the fashion floodgates are open, there is no stopping certain sportsmen *like* Andre Agassi, who looks as though his clothes are painted by a child having a tantrum.

It is nevertheless fairly certain that if such strange garments are properly marketed then otherwise level-headed people will wish to wear them in the omnipotent name of Leisure Wear.

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Stag	12.55	13.22	+0.27	..
Gilt Edged	13.7		+0.1	..
Deposit	13.18		+0.02	.
Pensions				
Squirrel	18.55	19.53	+0.04	.
Bear	18.09	19.05	+0.23	..
Owl	15.45	19.43	+0.34	.
Bull	15.34	16.15	+0.28	..
Stag	14.64	15.42	+0.32	..
Gilt Edged	15.9		+0.1	..
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Prop Fd Ser 4	347.5	365.8	..	..
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Conv Ser 4	257.3	261.4	+0.3	..
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Fixed Int Fd Ser 4	255.1	268.6	+2.3	..
American Ser 4	285.9	301.0	+10.6	..
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Intl Man Fd Acc	379.6	399.7	+8.1	..
Int Fxd Int Fd Acc	223.8	235.5	+0.5	.
Japan Fund	242.3	255.0	+11.9	.
Nth American Fd Acc	201.1	211.6	+4.4	..
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Do Accum	719.8	757.7	+15.9	
Overseas Accum	636.0	669.5	+23.6	.
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Gilt Edged Accum	288.2	303.4	+2.0	..
Do Initial	204.5	215.3	+1.6	..
International Accum	252.5	265.8	+8.7	.
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Do Initial	175.5	184.8	+0.2	..
Property Accum	273.5	287.9	+0.3	..
Do Initial	205.5	216.4	+0.1	..
American Accum	159.7	168.2	+5.2	..
Do Initial	123.1	125.6	+4.8	..
Australia Accum	123.4	129.9	+5.0	..
Do Initial	95.2	100.3	+3.8	..
Financial Accum	214.6	225.9	+7.0	..
Do Initial	165.3	174.0	+5.3	..
500 Accum	272.6	287.0	+7.7	..
Do Initial	207.1	218.0	+5.8	..
Japan &Gen Acc 2	288.8	303.6	+11.3	..
Do Initial 2	217.9	229.4	+9.0	..
Income Accum	345.3	363.5	+11.5	..
Do Initial	264.6	278.6	+8.9	..
Leisure Accum	169.7	178.7	+4.4	..
Special Sits Accum	134.4	141.5	+4.6	..
Univ Tech Accum	93.2	98.2	+2.5	..
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The Managed Fund	525.84		+7.80	..
Income Fund	531.9	559.9	+15.21	..
Extra Income Fund	477.2	502.4	+14.23	..
Worldwide Grwth Fd	322.9	339.9	+7.23	..
Balanced Fund	447.6	471.1	+14.67	..
Smlr Co's & Rc Fd	401.7	422.8	+9.84	..
Int Technology Fund	308.2	324.5	+9.01	..
N Amer & Gen Fund	238.8	251.4	+5.11	.
Energy Int Fund	114.5	120.6	+1.19	.
Pacific Basin Fund	247.3	260.4	+5.49	
German Growth Fd	158.0	167.4	+3.46	
Japan Growth Fd	137.9	145.2	+6.30	
The UK Gth Fd	145.1	152.7	+4.27	.
Contl Euro Gth	80.56	84.83	+1.46	
Property Fund	304.4	320.4	+0.27	..
Fixed Interest Fund	231.0	243.1	+1.16	..
Cash Fund	234.2	246.5	+0.34	..
Managed Inv Fund	327.8	345.1	+4.36	
Nth Amer Recov	134.8	141.9	+3.24	..
Abtrust Fund				
Managed Growth	278.0	282.6	+5.67	..
Managed Income	125.4	132.0	..	..

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CANADA LIFE 2-6, High St, Potters Bar, Herts P Bar 51122				
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Managed	221.7	233.4	+3.9	..
Property	175.7	185.0	+0.1	..
Gilt & Fixed Int	172.2	181.3	+1.3	..
Index-Linked	147.9	155.7	+0.6	..
Equity	242.3	255.1	+4.2	..
Cash	182.2	191.9	+0.4	..
Midland Bk UT	230.8	243.0	+3.7	..
Midland Bk Int	231.9	244.2	+5.9	..
CANNON ASSURANCE 1 Olympic Way, Wembley, Middx HA9 0NB 081-902 8876				
Capital Gth Acc	86.0	91.0	+2.6	..
Equity Units	£78.56		+1.36	..
Property Units	£26.46		-0.01	..
Bal Bd Exec Unit	£42.86	45.38	+0.80	..
2nd Equity Accum	438.9	461.3	+6.5	..
2nd High Inc/Accum	418.4	440.6	+8.6	..
2nd Property Accum	258.6	274.7	-0.2	..
2nd Managed 2 Acc	135.1	143.0	..	..
2nd Managed Acc	309.8	327.6	+4.0	..
2nd Managed 4 Acc	142.7	151.0	+2.8	..
2nd Deposit Accum	233.5	247.1	+0.3	..
2nd Gilt Accum	218.0	230.7	+0.3	..
2nd Amer Accum	310.0	328.0	+5.7	..
2nd Intl Money Ac	197.2	208.7	-0.1	..
2nd Index Accum	142.2	150.5	..	..
2nd Far East Accum	273.8	289.7	+7.7	..
2nd Global Accum	92.5	97.9	+1.5	..
2nd Euro Accum	112.7	119.3	+3.2	..
2nd Japan Accum	155.7	164.8	+3.9	..
2nd Heritage Acc	71.9	76.1	..	..
2nd Intl Curr Bond	107.9	114.2	..	..
CITY OF WESTMINSTER ASSURANCE Sentry House, 500, Avebury Blvd, Cntl Milton Keynes MK9 2LA 0908-606101				
Property Fund	211.5	222.7	..	..
Money Fund	309.0	325.3	+0.2	..
Managed Fund	404.0	425.3	+6.4	..
Equity Fund	223.3	233.1	+3.5	..
Fixed Interest Fund	164.6	173.3	+2.5	..
Far East Fund	328.3	345.6	+15.5	..
Nth Amer Fund	94.4	99.4	+2.0	..
Nat Resources Fund	214.5	225.8	+4.8	..
CLERICAL MEDICAL/FIDELITY INTERNATIONAL Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH 0272 290566 Assurance Funds				
Sapphire Mixed	188.2	198.2	+3.9	..
Ruby	97.7	102.9	+3.0	..
Emerald	110.5	116.4	+0.7	..
Equity	221.8	233.5	+4.2	..
Property	183.2	192.9	..	..
Gilt & Fixed Int	150.4	158.4	+1.5	..
Indexed Secs	128.1	134.9	+1.8	..
Cash	152.4	160.5	+0.3	..
Nth American	121.8	128.3	+4.2	..
Far East	172.9	182.0	+7.7	..
International	139.9	147.3	+4.6	..
Special Sits	181.3	190.9	+2.6	..
Intl Income	196.6	207.0	+4.6	..
American Inc	110.3	116.2	+3.6	..
European	207.7	218.7	+2.8	..
Japanese	107.5	113.2	+7.1	..
SE Asia	156.1	164.4	+3.9	..
Home Inv WP Reg	121.0	127.3	+0.2	..
Home Inv WP Spec	121.0	127.3	+0.2	..
Flexible Retirement Plans Funds				
Mixed	193.6	203.8	+4.7	..
Equity	232.0	244.3	+7.0	..
Property	157.4	165.7	..	..
Gilt & Fixed Int	167.2	176.0	+1.8	..
Index Linked	137.5	144.8	+2.0	..
Cash	188.7	198.7	+0.5	..
Nth American	140.4	147.8	+4.7	..
Far East Acc	197.5	207.9	+11.1	..
International Acc	169.0	177.9	+4.5	..
Special Sits	248.3	259.3	+6.0	..
European Flex	256.8	270.4	+4.6	..
COLONIAL MUTUAL *24 Lovegate Hill, London EC4P 4BD* 071-248 9861				
CML U Ass:Key	174.88		+7.90	..
CML U Ass:Pacemkr	232.03		+11.47	..
CML U Ass:Cash	170.7	179.7	+0.30	..
CML U Ass:Equity	375.0	394.8	+12.42	..
CML U Ass:FI	243.7	256.6	+1.43	..
CML U Ass:Mngd	277.2	291.8	+8.01	..
CML U Ass:Prop	284.2	299.1	+6.77	..
CML(Pen):Cash Cap	181.4	191.0	..	..
CML(Pen):Cash Inv	232.3	244.5	..	..
CML(Pen):Eqty Cap	£10.02	10.55	-0.25	..
CML(Pen):Eqty Inv	£12.83	13.51	..	..
CML(Pen):Fixd Cap	272.6	286.9	..	..
CML(Pen):Fixd Inv	348.9	367.3	..	..
CML(Pen):Indx Cap	170.1	179.1	..	..
CML(Pen):Indx Inv	217.6	229.3	..	..
CML(Pen):Man Cap	408.6	430.0	..	..
CML(Pen):Man Inv	523.0	550.5	..	..
COMMERCIAL UNION St Helen's, 1 Undershaft, EC3 071-283 7500				
Var Ann Accum (3)	416.82		..	..
Var Ann (3)	73.28		..	..
Prime- Managed	259.3	273.0	+6.0	..
Prime- UK Equity	314.5	331.1	+9.3	..
Prime- Int Equity	177.3	186.7	+4.2	..
Prime- Property	186.8	196.7	-3.2	..
Prime- Fixed Interest	170.0	179.0	+2.0	..
Prime- Index-Linked	131.6	138.6	+1.6	..
Prime- Cash	168.6	177.5	+0.4	..
CONFEDERATION LIFE 50 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1HE 071-242 0282				
Managed Fund	741.9	780.9	+19.2	..
Equity Fund	£10.54	11.09	..	..
PIP Fund	232.750		..	..
CROWN FINANCIAL Crown House, Woking GU21 1XW 04862 5035				
Life Managed Acc	396.7	417.5	+19.7	
Life Fixed Int Accum	271.1	285.3	+3.9	.
Life Equity Accum	542.0	570.5	+20.4	..
Life Money Accum	246.5	259.4	+0.2	..
Life Inv Trust Accum	477.5	502.6	+20.3	..
Life Intl Accum	333.7	351.2	+10.8	..
Life High Inc Accum	498.7	524.9	+27.9	..
Life Property Accum	216.7	228.1	+0.2	..
Crown Brit Inv A	806.7	856.0	..	..
Brewin Equity	432.5	455.2	..	..
DBS Managed	227.8	239.7	..	..
Growth Accum	281.0	295.7	..	..

The prices in this section refer to Thursday's trading

THE TIMES
UNIT TRUST STATISTICS

Monthly performance figures show value of £100 based on offer to offer prices without income re-invested and ranking within their sector. Yearly figures are based on offer to bid prices with income re-invested. -- Unit trust was founded in the past year. †PEP scheme available. *Source: Finstat.*

UK GENERAL

Fund	Bid price	Offer price	1 month perf	1 month rank	1 year perf	1 year rank
Abbey Gen	157.8	168.1	105.9	69	84.1	80
Allchurches Income & Gth	283.5	304.0	107.3	31	88.5	55
Allchurches Accumulator	789.5	840.8	107.5	23	95.5	19
† Alld Dunbar Asset Value	371.4	395.5	108.0	10	93.3	21
† Alld Dunbar Balanced	486.1	517.5	107.5	23	96.4	7
† Alld Dunbar Growth & Inc	171.8	182.9	108.0	10	94.7	16
AnsvGth	70.20	75.45	102.7	97	69.4	100
† Arctic Equity	85.80	91.05	107.9	12	90.2	3
† Barclays Uni 500	293.7	315.0	102.2	100	78.9	95
† Barclays Uni Gen	183.5	196.3	106.1	57	91.2	40
Barclays Uni Trustee	128.8	135.9	107.0	42	83.8	84
[illegible]	242.9	258.9	106.9	60	88.2	67
Baring Portfolio	[illegible]	91.60	108.5	40	94.0	19
† Bishopsgate PEP Inc	108.8	114.8	112.9	1	102.4	1
[illegible] UK & Gen	30.58	32.88	105.3	84	69.7	102
Brown Shipley PEP	51.83	55.95	106.4	52	—	—
Brown Shipley UK Gen	108.6	115.7	106.9	46	89.9	62
Brycourt Income Gth	169.5	176.0	105.1	85	88.5	55
Buckmaster Inv Portfolio	47.90	48.47	105.9	69	85.2	77
Cannon Gth	36.13	38.84	108.4	5	90.7	47
† Capability Income & Gth	302.6	322.0	105.1	85	88.7	53
Capital Hse Asset Value	155.2	165.1	107.8	14	91.5	32
CCL UK Gen	48.87	51.90	105.9	69	82.9	87
Clerical Med General Equity	90.81	96.90	108.1	57	82.3	28
Colonial Mutual Capital	45.57	48.74	108.1	57	84.5	78
† Confederation Gth	38.18	40.33	107.8	42	91.5	32
Consistent Tst	24.47	28.14	99.8	184	92.7	23
Cornhill UK Equity	44.79	47.65	108.5	95	78.9	92
† Curran Gth	322.8	346.2	105.6	74	80.6	46
CS Portfolio	59.20	62.97	102.1	101	77.8	94
† CU Gulliver Gen	95.53	101.69	107.0	31	91.9	36
† CU UK & Gen	58.56	60.59	107.0	42	88.1	73
Discretionary	106.2	113.9	99.6	103	71.5	98
† Eagle Star UK Balanced	85.30	90.74	105.5	85	85.3	76
† Equitable Pelican	97.10	102.21	106.0	65	86.5	62
Equity & Law Gen	318.9	330.3	107.6	19	95.6	9
† Equity & Law UK Gth	170.7	180.0	107.1	30	95.0	15
† Fidelity Growth & Inc	118.3	126.9	106.1	57	87.3	66
Fleming Capital Portfolio	106.1	109.0	106.0	65	86.4	71
† Framlington Income & Gth	145.5	154.7	105.4	83	77.7	93
Friends Prov Equity	256.57	272.95	105.7	75	86.3	72
GA Gth	165.0	174.9	105.6	48	91.1	42
GAM UK Diversified	108.58	115.91	107.5	28	—	—
GAM UK Special	103.72	110.94	102.6	99	70.0	99

Fund	Bid price	Offer price	1 month perf	1 month rank	1 year perf	1 year rank
Royal Scottish/Cap House UK	49.95	53.13	107.8	20	—	—
† S&P Scotshares	197.4	210.0	101.5	147	83.4	69
† S&P Special Sits	85.52	90.97	96.5	178	84.8	164
† S&P UK Equity	204.7	217.7	104.8	100	83.0	85
† S&P UK Smlr Cos Gth	38.17	40.60	94.1	181	88.8	147
S&W Gth	91.73	97.07	104.9	98	80.4	99
S&W Smlr Securities	184.0	194.7	103.7	118	84.4	166
Schroder Enterprise Acc	147.4	157.2	107.1	34	98.0	5
Schroder Recovery (Inst)	1101	1170	102.2	138	79.7	108
Schroder Smlr Cos	127.4	135.6	98.7	180	89.3	143
Schroder UK Sm Cos (Inst)	73.37	76.05	100.4	162	65.2	161
Scot Am Equity	43.29	46.10	105.5	74	88.6	64
† Scot Am Equity Strategy	50.87	54.18	105.5	74	94.5	78
Scot Am UK Smlr Cos	37.59	40.69	102.0	141	71.2	135
Scot Equit Ethical	20.71	22.15	104.7	105	88.8	43
Scot Mut UK Sm Cos Equity	162.9	173.4	101.2	155	67.1	154
Scot Mut UK Special Sits	49.61	52.76	102.2	136	67.7	151
Scot Prov Equity Gth	19.22	20.57	105.6	39	95.0	12
† Sovereign Ethical	43.34	46.11	105.7	70	65.6	74
† Sovereign UK Gth	47.58	50.75	105.8	69	89.9	37
Standard Life UK Equity Gth	41.37	43.96	107.5	23	94.8	14
Sun Alliance Equity Tst	540.8	576.4	105.5	63	86.8	61
Sun Life Of Canada UK Gth	29.76	31.63	105.8	63	87.5	58
Target UK Capital	80.24	86.20	104.9	98	89.9	37
Thornhill Capital	50.17	53.37	107.9	16	94.5	18
Thornton UK Small Cos	40.77	43.59	100.0	169	67.0	158
† TR Smlr Cos	58.25	59.64	101.0	158	63.6	171
† TR Special Opportunities	59.10	62.87	101.6	146	88.5	179
TSB British Gth	69.04	73.44	106.5	43	95.4	10
TSB Environmental Investor	43.46	46.25	106.2	55	89.9	37
TSB Select Opportunity	73.47	78.15	105.4	76	78.1	112
TSB Smlr Cos	39.74	42.27	99.8	171	67.1	154
UTAM Friars House Capital	176.6	187.1	106.3	49	81.7	91
Wardley UK Gth	138.6	148.2	106.1	58	74.7	121
Waverley Penny Share	18.74	19.93	100.1	167	61.0	176
† Wessex UK Gth	111.0	116.7	105.9	60	94.2	18
† Yorkshire Gen	42.47	45.07	103.3	121	70.0	138
Sector Average/Totals	—	—	104.8	189	78.3	189

UK EQUITY INCOME

Fund	Bid price	Offer price	1 month perf	1 month rank	1 year perf	1 year rank
Abbey Dividend & Gth	45.79	48.71	108.3	16	91.1	38
Abbey High Income Equity	127.3	135.4	108.7	57	91.1	38
Abtrust Extra Inc	37.75	40.28	106.4	64	84.4	60
Acorn UK Equity Inc	55.57	59.11	111.4	2	102.1	2
Anglo Inc	75.30	80.02	108.4	64	94.7	12
AEtna High Yield	78.80	83.58	105.8	79	88.8	96

Fund	Bid price	Offer price	1 month perf	1 month rank	1 year perf	1 year rank
Schroder Gilt	112.5	118.4	102.5	21	117.9	1
Sovereign Controlled Perform	45.45	48.48	102.1	32	89.7	44
Standard Life UK Gilt & FI	26.65	28.18	102.9	16	107.2	17
Swiss Life Fixed Interest	243.1	251.9	102.1	32	106.1	13
Target Preference	18.10	19.48	104.9	1	85.3	47
† TSB Premier Inc	43.06	45.66	102.3	29	101.0	40
Whittingdale Shrt Dtd Gilt	90.76	91.95	101.4	41	110.9	3
Sector Average/Totals	—	—	102.0	55	102.1	62

CONVERTIBLES

Fund	Bid price	Offer price	1 month perf	1 month rank	1 year perf	1 year rank
Anglo Capital Defender	36.77	39.06	106.8	3	74.1	10
Alld Dunbar Conv & Gilt	33.87	36.07	102.1	9	86.7	2
Baring Convertibles	39.45	43.93	106.2	4	78.0	7
BG Convertible & Gen	41.70	44.60	103.2	7	74.7	9
Brown Shipley Conv & Gen	17.26	18.38	100.8	12	72.0	11
Capital Hse Conv & Equity	38.95	39.30	100.8	11	61.5	12
CU Fixed & Conv	32.19	34.24	107.5	10	77.5	8
EFM Convertibles	20.64	21.93	109.9	1	85.8	3
Fidelity Global Convertible	17.94	19.19	105.9	6	79.1	6
Framlington Convertible	91.05	96.86	109.6	2	84.3	4
Prolific Convertible & Gilt	99.17	105.5	102.4	8	81.2	5
Prosperity Gilt & Fxd Inc	21.40	22.86	106.2	4	87.0	1
Sector Average/Totals	—	—	104.8	12	78.5	12

INVST TRUST UNITS

Fund	Bid price	Offer price	1 month perf	1 month rank	1 year perf	1 year rank
M&M Brit International Bond	41.95	44.37	103.0	5	90.5	14
Norwich International Bond	89.49	95.20	98.3	14	89.5	16
Prov Cap Worldwide Bond	50.20	53.20	103.8	2	102.8	2
S&P International Bond	125.0	132.9	103.9	1	99.0	5
Sun Alliance Worldwide Bond	43.59	46.31	100.6	11	91.2	13
Waverley Global Bond	1.0216	1.0841	97.8	15	92.0	11
Whittingdale US Govt Bond	.6374	.6457	97.1	18	92.0	11
Sector Average/Totals	—	—	100.9	18	95.4	17

INTERNATIONAL BALANCED

Fund	Bid price	Offer price	1 month perf	1 month rank	1 year perf	1 year rank
Abbey Global Gth & Security	49.48	52.63	103.0	18	—	—
Cazenove Portfolio	53.05	56.74	103.7	16	86.4	15
CU Private Inv Portfolio	50.00	53.19	105.5	12	93.1	2
CU Prof Invest Portfolio	54.34	57.81	107.2	4	91.0	8
CU Progressive Inv Portfolio	52.91	56.29	108.7	8	94.7	4
GA Income Portfolio	44.55	47.22	106.3	10	89.9	9
Gartmore Global Inc & Gth	78.83	83.96	107.1	5	89.3	11
Manulife Mngd Portfolio	44.80	47.66	107.4	2	87.5	13
Marks & Spencer Inv & Port	103.5	110.6	107.0	7	88.0	12
Marlborough Mngd	48.01	51.07	100.7	21	93.4	6
Mercury Portfolio	56.18	59.79	107.1	5	94.4	5
Royal Life Intl Cautionary	47.17	50.21	105.6	12	97.0	3
Royal London Intl Inc	56.90	60.52	108.4	9	91.9	7
Scot Prov Global Inc	18.32	19.61	105.2	14	87.3	14
Sun Life of Canada Mngd Asset	95.85	102.52	106.0	11	—	—
Templeton Global Balanced	95.96	102.63	106.1	1	82.9	16
The Master Portfolio	7614.0	8015.0	107.4	2	89.9	9

Fund	Bid price	Offer price	1 month perf	1 month rank	1 year perf	1 year rank
Henderson Euro	281.7	298.88	107.9	23	73.0	99
Henderson Euro Inc	54.07	57.25	103.9	104	87.6	3
Henderson Euro Sm Cos	99.84	106.08	105.0	92	73.3	94
Hill Samuel European	150.5	160.9	107.2	40	80.0	40
Holborn European	128.15	136.12	107.3	38	77.2	64
James Capel Euro Gth	66.22	70.67	107.9	23	82.8	18
James Capel European Index	102.7	109.6	106.7	54	76.7	69
KB European	105.0	111.7	106.2	62	80.0	40
KB European Spec	73.61	78.31	105.7	76	72.4	102
LAS European	49.47	52.63	106.3	61	81.7	28
Laurentian Euro [illegible] Acc	58.07	61.78	104.5	99	76.1	86
Lazard European Gth	69.98	70.80	107.0	47	92.9	1
Legal & General European	76.04	80.89	107.1	43	78.0	57
Lloyds Contl Euro Gth	40.19	42.31	105.7	76	79.0	51
Lloyds GerMngd Gth	83.29	87.67	104.0	102	82.0	25
M&G European	365.1	386.1	105.8	71	81.8	32
M&G European Dividend	44.60	47.20	107.3	38	90.0	2
Manulife European	51.42	54.70	108.5	14	76.9	68
Martin Currie European	51.78	54.96	106.4	59	74.9	87
Mercury European Gth	148.7	158.1	107.5	33	73.7	91
Mercury European Inc	60.29	64.13	107.8	28	73.3	94
Metropolitan Eurogrowth Plus	65.38	69.55	104.8	94	86.0	5
Midland European Gth	127.9	136.3	109.0	10	78.2	56
MIM Brit Euro Smlr Cos	17.27	18.40	103.5	108	73.0	99
MIM Brit European	83.42	88.76	103.5	108	71.8	105
MIM Brit French Gth	44.87	47.67	101.3	116	76.7	69
Morgan Gren Euro Gth	183.9	196.8	108.7	105	76.6	71
Murray European	49.25	52.55	105.4	85	79.2	46
New Court Smlr Euro Cos	189.82	202.91	104.4	100	83.6	14
NM European	132.50	141.30	106.2	62	79.9	43
Norwich Pen European	89.85	95.58	105.5	81	—	—
Norwich Union European	120.19	127.86	104.6	98	77.9	59
NPI European	66.51	70.75	108.6	12	73.7	91
Pearl New Europe	48.48	51.57	107.3	36	—	—
Perpetual European Gth	61.16	66.81	107.0	47	78.0	61
Pilgrim European	40.20	42.77	105.1	90	—	—
Prolific European Gth & Inc	47.81	50.97	105.5	81	75.2	84
Prosperity European	36.78	39.11	108.0	21	70.9	107
Prov Cap European	109.5	116.8	107.0	47	76.8	67
Prov Cap Swiss Equities	35.25	37.96	111.4	2	83.6	14
Prov Mutual European	53.33	56.73	109.3	8	78.3	55
Refuge European	97.05	103.8	107.9	23	—	—
Royal Life European	64.29	68.48	105.6	79	82.3	22
Royal London European Gth	65.61	69.79	105.6	79	79.1	49
S&P European Gth	114.8	122.1	105.3	88	73.2	96
S&P European Income & Gth	53.04	56.42	102.6	113	83.8	13
Schroder European (Inst)	140.80	149.50	106.1	66	84.6	11
Scot Am European Opps	57.13	60.84	107.1	43	79.9	43

COMMODITY & ENERGY

Fund	Bid price	Offer price	1 month perf	1 month rank	1 year perf	1 year rank
Abbey Commodity & Energy	68.53	73.29	98.2	16	58.6	18
Alld Dunbar Nat Min & Comm	102.9	109.5	103.9	3	74.9	5
BG Energy	303.5	325.8	108.9	1	81.9	1
CU PPT Commodities Acc	42.53	45.24	96.7	13	69.4	8
CU PPT Gold Acc	26.99	28.71	91.4	21	58.0	19
EFM Resources	17.84	18.91	98.4	10	65.0	14
Gartmore Gold & Intl Res	53.22	57.07	95.4	17	67.7	10
Henderson Global Resources	59.94	64.11	98.2	14	68.8	11
Hill Samuel Nat Resources	43.29	46.29	101.2	6	66.5	12
James Capel Gold & Gen	51.04	54.47	100.8	8	70.2	8
Legal & General Natural Res	63.09	67.12	96.7	15	54.5	20
Lloyds Energy International	54.48	57.90	99.0	11	66.4	13
M&G Commodity & Gen	206.70	220.7	101.9	5	70.9	7
M&G Gold & Gen	29.98	31.60	88.9	25	50.5	23
Martin Jupiter Res & Gen	100.2	106.5	106.1	2	76.8	3
MIM Brit Commodity Share	30.66	32.58	102.8	4	73.1	6
MIM Brit Gold	30.48	32.68	91.0	23	54.0	21
NM Gold	27.05	29.08	91.0	23	53.8	22
Prov Cap Gold Tst	35.70	38.36	85.7	26	—	—
S&P Commodity	69.36	73.78	101.2	6	78.0	4
S&P Energy Industries	74.67	79.43	100.2	9	76.9	2
S&P Gold & Exploration	33.23	35.35	91.1	22	57.3	17
Target Gold & Gen	33.30	35.89	94.5	19	59.6	16
Thornton Golden Opps	23.87	25.43	94.9	18	48.0	24
TSB Natural Resources	55.12	58.63	98.6	12	65.1	15
Waverley Australasian Gold	7.3	7.76	92.7	20	46.8	25
Sector Average/Totals	—	—	97.3	26	64.2	25

FINANCIAL & PROPERTY

Fund	Bid price	Offer price	1 month perf	1 month rank	1 year perf	1 year rank
Abtrust Property Share	52.71	56.27	105.7	12	—	—
AEtna Financial & Property	48.82	52.28	104.9	15	68.8	14
Barclays Uni Financial	52.04	55.66	105.9	11	73.3	9
Brown Shipley Financial	107.8	114.8	105.7	12	69.7	12
Capital Hse Property Share	33.76	35.91	100.8	19	66.6	17
Confederation Property Share	24.03	25.56	105.7	12	80.5	7
Cornhill Property Share	22.61	24.00	107.7	8	68.8	14
CU Fin & Property	80.28	85.40	109.9	4	83.8	5
Framlington Financial	53.42	56.82	111.0	2	79.8	6
GRE Property Share	216.3	228.8	101.5	18	68.8	14
GT Global Prop Sec Inc	42.50	45.46	104.6	16	69.0	13
Hambro-[illegible] Prop Share	57.22	60.71	103.6	17	70.3	10
Hill Samuel Financial	489.6	502.4	110.9	3	88.1	1

UK GROWTH

UK BALANCED

GILT & FIXED INTEREST

INTERNATIONAL GROWTH

INTERNATIONAL EQUITY INC

INTERNATIONAL FXD INTEREST

FUND OF FUNDS

NORTH AMERICA

EUROPE

JAPAN

FAR EAST INCLUDING JAPAN

FAR EAST EXCLUDING JAPAN

AUSTRALASIA

MONEY MARKET

MANAGED

Yearly figures in this section are based on offer to bid prices without income re-invested.

Plan to restructure agency aims to meet Rothschild objections

Saatchi chief settles insider trading case

From PHILIP ROBINSON IN NEW YORK

ROBERT Louis-Dreyfus, the chief executive of Saatchi & Saatchi, the world's second largest advertising agency, has agreed to pay $213,750 to settle an action brought by the American Securities & Exchange Commission under the insider dealing laws.

Under the consent order, M Louis-Dreyfus, who is working to gain the support of the London and New York financial communities for a restructuring of Saatchi's finances, agreed to settle commission charges with a civil penalty as final judgment without admitting or denying wrongdoing. Under the judgment, M Louis-Dreyfus promises no future violations of the insider dealing laws.

The commission charged that he passed on inside information on or before February 5, 1988, about the pending $1.77 billion takeover by Dun & Bradstreet of IMS International, a market research firm at which he was chief operating officer from 1982 to 1984 and then president and chief executive. IMS shares rose sharply on the takeover announcement.

The commission says the likely takeover of IMS was made known by M Louis-Dreyfus to his friend Adina Cohen, who bought shares and recommended the shares to her sister and brother-in-law and two friends. The commission said M Louis-Dreyfus was thereby in breach of a duty to his shareholders.

The deals made profits of $157,000. It was not alleged that M Louis-Dreyfus engaged in insider dealing.

While the commission says Ms Cohen did not tell any of the four that she knew a deal was pending, the four none the less knew or had reason to know that Ms Cohen knew M Louis-Dreyfus. Penalties on the six and repayment of profits totalled $644,225.

M Louis-Dreyfus, the 44-year-old French-born executive, was barely known in the advertising industry when appointed to take over the running of Saatchi 15 months ago from the founding brothers, Maurice and Charles Saatchi. M Louis-Dreyfus will have to disclose the commission settlement in official filings for the next five years.

M Robert Myers, attorney to M Louis-Dreyfus, said his client had chosen to settle the case to avoid the expense and distraction of a long litigation so that he could devote himself to Saatchi.

Maurice Saatchi, the chairman, supported his chief executive over the affair, which did not involve Saatchi. He said: "The board is pleased that Robert has settled this matter as quickly as possible so that he can continue to concentrate fully on the management of this company and its recapitalisation."

A revised restructuring plan for Saatchi has been drawn up by SG Warburg in London and Donaldson Lufkin Jenrette in New York. These aim to meet objections from Lord Rothschild and other holders of the group's convertible preference shares to earlier proposals. The new plans, agreed in principle by the board, are expected to be announced to the Stock Exchange early next week.

The plans will involve all £276 million of the two convertible preference stocks being exchanged into new ordinary shares. In the initial proposals, about £75 million of preference stock would have remained, with limited dividend rights. Existing ordinary. shareholders would have retained 30 per cent of the enlarged share capital. In the new plans, they are likely to have 20 per cent or less.

A letter will be sent to shareholders this month in preparation for an extraordinary meeting to vote on the plans in March.

Clive Gibson, a director of Lord Rothschild's St James's Place Capital group, also offered support for Mr Louis-Dreyfus yesterday. He said: "We have known about this for some time and it in no way affects the reconstruction process at Saatchi & Saatchi."

M Louis-Dreyfus was welcomed in London and New York as a saviour when recruited in 1989 as chief executive of Saatchi.

No more insider violations: Robert Louis-Dreyfus, the Frenchman who runs Saatchi

The Blue Arrow trial

'Cover-up was no romantic scam'

LEADING City figures who plotted to hide the failure of the £837 million Blue Arrow rights issue were not taking part in a "romantic scam", intending to jet off to the South Seas afterwards, a jury was told. They would still be around and it was important they protected their reputations, said Mr Nicholas Purnell, QC, prosecuting, at the Old Bailey.

For that reason they had to control information about the performance of the biggest cash call the City of London had ever seen, he alleged. Mr Purnell was continuing the prosecution's opening on the fifth day of the trial in which County NatWest, NatWest Investment Bank, broker UBS Phillips & Drew Securities and seven professional advisers deny conspiring to mislead the market over the outcome of the rights issue.

Mr Purnell described the way County NatWest, UBS P&D and Dillon Read, the American adviser to the issue, had carried out decisions taken by the alleged conspirators to spend tens of millions on covering up the fact that the issue had flopped.

At a National Westminster Bank business meeting, Jonathan Cohen, the chief executive of County NatWest at the time of the issue, assured the chairman that County's part in the issue represented an "appropriate risk", would be seen as one of the City's "corporate highlights" and increase the merchant bank's stature.

Mr Purnell said: "So the corporate wisdom was being questioned by the chairman. The commercial significance was being applauded by Cohen and the impact upon the City was being emphasised in his response."

He said: "It was inevitable they had to make representations to various interested parties about how the rights issue was going. So they had to control how that information came out." As a result, they misinformed the Stock Exchange and the press and lied to the Bank of England, Mr Purnell claimed.

Mr Purnell said that during a meeting with a Bank of England official, to report on the issue's performance, David Reed (former executive director and managing director of corporate finance at County) and Nicholas Wells (former County NatWest executive director and a former member of its corporate advisory department) explained they had "warehoused" Blue Arrow shares in NatWest Investment Bank and other companies in a way that would not require disclosure of the stock under the Companies Act.

Mr Purnell said: "The Bank of England may not have been aware of the significance of what they were being told but the Stock Exchange, given this information, would, the prosecution submits, have been at County with ferocity."

Business Editor John Bell

THE POUND

US dollar
1.9715 (-0.0090)

German mark
2.9060 (+0.0016)

Exchange index
94.4 (same)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1824.5 (+7.0)

FT-SE 100
2296.9 (+2.5)

New York Dow Jones
2899.75 (+22.52)*

Tokyo Nikkei Avge
25343.74 (-12.63)

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:	
Schroders	710p (+11p)
T&S Stores	165p (+9p)
Memec	160p (+11p)
P&P	100½p (+21p)
Berkeley Group	267½p (+13p)
Taylor Woodrow	265p (+16p)
Tilbury Group	570p (+15p)
Sothebys	712½p (+13p)
Wolstenholme Rink	250p (+10p)
Quadrant Group	106½p (+10p)
General Accident	532½p (+10p)
CE Heath	473½p (+10p)
Sedgwick Group	246p (+9p)
Blenheim	655p (+55p)
St Ives Group	193½p (+10p)
FALLS:	
Allied Lyons	501½p (-11p)
Barclays	387½p (-12p)
WH Smith 'A'	342½p (-10p)
Eurotherm	221p (-9p)
Haynes Publishing	132½p (-32p)

Closing prices

Closing Prices ... Page 35

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base: 13½%
3-month Interbank 13 5/32-13 1/32%
3-month eligible bills: 12 13/32-12 9/32%
US: Prime Rate 9%
Federal Funds 6 7/16%*
3-month Treasury Bills 5.90-5.88%*
30-year bonds 98 27/32-98 7/8*

CURRENCIES

London:	New York:
£: $1.9715	£: $1.9707*
£: DM2.9060	$: DM1.4760*
£: SwFr2.4964	$: SwFr1.2672*
£: FFr9.9098	$: FFr5.0285*
£: Yen256.69	$: Yen130.40*
£: Index:94.4	$: Index:60.1
ECU £0.703784	SDR £0.730345
£: ECU1.420890	£: SDR1.369215

GOLD

London Fixing:
AM $366.25 pm-$365.50
close $362.00-364.00 (£183.50-184.50)
New York:
Comex $367.25-367.75*

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Mar) ...... $17.90 bbl ($19.60)
* Denotes latest trading price

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.58	2.43
Austria Sch	21.40	20.00
Belgium Fr	62.70	58.70
Canada $	2.39	2.24
Denmark Kr	11.69	10.99
Finland Mkk	7.44	6.99
France Fr	10.31	9.66
Germany Dm	3.04	2.84
Greece Dr	331	311
Hong Kong $	15.85	15.05
Ireland Pt	1.14	1.07
Italy Lira	2286	2145
Japan Yen	271	255
Netherlands Gld	3.415	3.205
Norway Kr	11.57	11.17
Portugal Esc	267	251
South Africa Rd	5.55	4.95
Spain Pta	189	176
Sweden Kr	11.38	10.70
Switzerland Fr	2.605	2.435
Turkey Lira	6600	5900
USA $	2.083	1.943
Yugoslavia Dnr	35.00	27.00

Rates for small denomination bank only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques.
Retail Price Index: 130.2 (January)

US accused of compounding airline problems

From PETER GUILFORD IN BRUSSELS

THE European Commission has accused America of compounding global airline problems by threatening to complain to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt) over exchange rate guarantees given by Germany to the Airbus consortium.

The commission's reaction dashes hopes of an early end to the transatlantic dispute over subsidies to the aircraft industry.

In a statement yesterday, Brussels implied that it would be insensitive of Washington to complain before a Gatt disputes panel while the Gulf war was throwing airlines further into recession.

The statement said Germany had the right to cushion Deutsche Airbus, the German part of the four-nation consortium, against currency fluctuations.

"The devaluation of the US dollar has given US aircraft manufacturers an enormous competitive advantage against their European counterparts," the statement said.

Carla Hills, the American trade representative, has said she will file a complaint that the German payment scheme amounts to an illegal export subsidy under Gatt rules. But Brussels claims the scheme affects sales within Europe as well as exports, and marks a move away from state intervention, as it was conceived to help the Bonn government privatise Germany's civil aviation industry.

Washington has already rejected the commission's latest offer to cut research subsidies to 45 per cent of total development cost and to phase out production aid.

This latest escalation in the Airbus row casts a further shadow over efforts to create a barrier-free world trading system within Gatt.

In a separate statement, the commission said it was concerned that the American decision would "inevitably increase trade tensions and contribute to the climate of uncertainty which already reigns over the world aircraft market".

Brussels and Washington had been close to a deal on the principles of airline subsidisation, according to a senior air transport official. But the commission has refused to strike a deal on airline subsidies until the world's other main manufacturing nations, notably Canada and Japan, become involved.

☐ The British transport department said it is waiting for the American transportation department to suggest a meeting on transatlantic airline route transfers. Talks between officials from both sides broke down last month over whether Pan Am and Trans World Airlines could sell their London routes to United Airlines and American Airlines.

"We suggested dates for officials to meet in Washington this week. There's been no reply," a transport department spokesman said.

On Thursday, Samuel Skinner, the American transportation secretary, said he might become personally involved in the dispute and might meet Malcolm Rifkind, his British counterpart.

Ratners to trim staff and stock

By MICHAEL TATE
CITY EDITOR

THE deeper the recession, the deeper people fall in love, it would seem. So would say Ratners, Britain's biggest jeweller. According to sources close to the group, which claims to sell a third of the jewellery purchased in Britain, Valentine's Day sales were 30 per cent ahead of last year.

Meanwhile, the group is closing 35 of its Salisbury's fashion shops and reducing its British workforce of 16,000 by 5 per cent to cut out duplication, saving up to £10 million over 12 months.

Ratners is also to cut its stock levels in Britain by 40 per cent this year. Gerald Ratner, chairman and chief executive, has said that the group can operate with less stock. Analysts are expecting a double figure increase in British sales this year.

The cost-cutting measures have impressed investment analysts, and the shares improved by 5p to 148p.

Independence call for EC merger enquiries

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

EUROPEAN mechanisms to control company mergers would work better if merger enquiries within the European Community were more independent, according to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

The commission's annual report, published yesterday, says it is too early to judge the working of the EC's new merger controls, which were introduced last September. The controls require all proposed mergers between companies with a combined turnover of Ecu5 billion (£3.45 billion) to be decided by Brussels.

But the commission said there should be a "reasonable consistency of approach" and reasonable parity of interest between the EC and national merger authorities. The commission hoped there would be "scope for a more independent investigatory body to emerge" and, where appropriate, for greater delegation of parts of merger enquiries to national bodies.

Sir Sydney Lipworth, the commission's chairman, favours a wholly independent investigatory body. He does not believe that the body instigating a merger enquiry should be the same as that carrying out the investigation.

Sir Sydney refused to be drawn on the "Lilley doctrine"; opposition, led by Peter Lilley, the trade secretary, to prevent nationalised companies, and particularly the French, from buying or merging with British private sector firms. He thought such judgments were a matter for politicians.

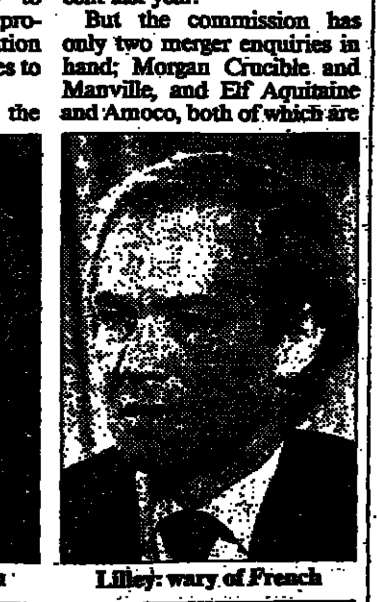
The commission's report indicates a near-collapse of its work on corporate mergers. Figures show that in recent years dealing with mergers had formed an increasing proportion of its workload, rising from 29 per cent of its reports in 1988 to 63 per cent the following year and 77 per cent last year.

But the commission has only two merger enquiries in hand; Morgan Crucible and Manville, and Elf Aquitaine and Amoco, both of which are due at the end of March. Stephen Burbridge, secretary of the commission, confirmed that it had received no merger referrals since those two in mid-December.

While the number of Stock Exchange-opposed mergers has declined, the commission believes that trade sales — companies disposing of their non-core activities — are increasing. Since the best price is often obtainable from someone in the industry, that may attract the attention of the competition authorities.

The commission said that last year was its busiest ever. It completed 35 reports, more than 10 per cent of the total since the commission's first report in 1950.

Sir Sydney: not drawn



Lilley: wary of French

Teasy Weasy Raymond and André Bernard taken over

Alan Paul crops two chains at a snip

By RODNEY HOBSON

TWO of the greatest names in hairdressing have been saved from among the floor sweepings of the industry. Raymond, and André Bernard, both in receivership, are now part of Alan Paul, the rapidly expanding chain which is quoted on the Unlisted Securities Market.

Peter Raymond was the most famous *coiffeur* in Britain in the Sixties when television was creating its first generation of personalities. Known as Mr Teasy Weasy, the Mayfair hairdresser turned up at the opening of new salons in a Rolls-Royce and wearing a blue carnation.

At his peak he had a chain of 34 salons. He also owned two Grand National winners, Ayala, a 66-1 outsider in 1963, and Rag Trade, ridden to victory at 14-1 in 1975.

Now in his eighties, he still turns up at hairdressing functions although a battle against cancer in 1974 took its toll on his health.

Alan Moss, the chairman of Alan Paul, aged 41, was a mere schoolboy when Raymond hit the small screen. Mr Moss says: "I remember coming home and seeing him on television. He was a real character.

"He and his wife are very sad that his company ended up in receivership but we shall probably preserve the name by calling the salons Raymond at Alan Paul."

Alan Paul is paying £430,000 for Raymond's remaining 13 salons, including short and medium term leaseholds and £130,000 worth of fixtures and fittings. Turnover last year was about £2 million and operating profits about £200,000.

The chain, which employs 250 staff, is based in the Midlands, where Alan Paul is keen to expand its presence. André Bernard came to prominence in the Sixties and Seventies after starting up in Knightsbridge, London.

Mr Moss says: "I was in Wigan washing hair in one of his salons." Mr Bernard died in an accident in Hyde Park.

Alan Paul has paid £300,000 for 41 André Bernard shops. The two deals take its total outlets to 379, with 217 in the Britain, 137 in Germany, 15 in Belgium and 10 in Switzerland. It claims to be the largest hairdressing group in Europe.

However, the shares have slipped since the flotation at 160p two years ago. After reaching a peak of 183p in July 1989, they slid to 102p this month.

Yesterday they were unchanged at 110p.

Mr Moss considers he bought the two chains cheaply. He says: "The industry is so fragmented there are no players of any size in the market who can do this kind of deal at short notice."

Kvaerner up 44% despite Govan losses

By ROSS TIEMAN
INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

LOSSES at the Kvaerner Govan shipyard on Clydeside swallowed most of the profits last year from shipbuilding at Kvaerner, Norway's largest quoted company.

However, a strong performance from shipping and pulp processing equipment helped group pre-tax profits for the year to end-December rise 44 per cent to NKr1.04 billion (£91.5 million) on sales of NKr 13.1 billion.

Jan Heggelund, executive vice-president, said Kvaerner had underestimated the problems it faced at Govan, which it bought from state-owned British Shipbuilders for £7 million in 1988. The Norwegian group had since appointed its own managers and won productivity concessions from the workforce. An investment of £25 million was being made in better facilities.

Kvaerner Govan's workforce has been expanded, to 2,140, including 600 temporary workers. In total, 3,000 of the group's 12,774 workforce is based in Britain.

"We can see no reason why profitability in Scotland should not match Norway," Mr Heggelund said. Efficiency at Kvaerner's Norwegian yards, which build vessels of up to 60,000 tonnes deadweight, was three times that of Govan.

Total profits from shipbuilding last year were NKr22 million on sales of NKr1.91 billion. Govan has orders for three liquefied natural gas tankers, which will keep it busy until mid-1992.

Kvaerner is convinced shipbuilding will undergo a revival in the Nineties. The group is awaiting approval from the Finnish government for its proposed acquisition of the Masa-Yards group, Europe's most modern shipyards. The deal will make Kvaerner Europe's largest shipbuilder and the second largest worldwide.

Negotiations to take a 50 per cent stake in the Gdynia shipyard in Poland, a deal that would have made Kvaerner the world's biggest shipbuilder, have stalled.

Kvaerner's other activities, in offshore engineering and mechanical engineering, remained central to group strategy, Mr Heggelund said.

The pace of the group's acquisitive expansion was likely to slow during this year, and prospects for the current year were more than usually uncertain. However, profits were expected to be "of the same order of magnitude as in 1990"

The shares, which have been listed in London since October, fell £¼ to £17½. Kvaerner's board will propose a dividend of NKr2.75 (NKr 2.25).

WORLD MARKET INDICES

Index	Value	Daily ch'ge (£)	Yearly ch'ge (£)	Daily ch'ge (lc)*	Yearly ch'ge (lc)*	Daily ch'ge (US$)	Yearly ch'ge (US$)
The World	627.1	0.5	9.3	0.5	9.8	0.0	11.8
(free)	119.9	0.5	9.2	0.4	9.7	0.0	11.8
EAFE	1079.9	0.3	10.1	0.4	9.1	-0.2	12.6
(free)	110.9	0.3	10.0	0.2	8.9	-0.2	12.6
Europe	646.2	0.8	8.6	1.0	8.9	0.4	11.1
(free)	139.7	0.8	8.4	0.7	8.4	0.3	10.9
Nth America	455.3	0.8	8.1	0.3	10.5	0.3	10.6
Nordic	1194.2	1.8	9.8	1.9	10.2	1.3	12.4
(free)	195.4	1.8	9.2	2.0	9.6	1.4	11.8
Pacific	2401.4	-0.1	11.3	-0.1	9.3	-0.6	13.9
Far East	3483.5	-0.2	11.4	-0.1	9.3	-0.6	14.0
Australia	248.1	1.0	8.1	0.4	8.3	0.5	10.6
Austria	1412.6	4.7	8.0	5.2	9.1	4.2	10.5
Belgium	749.3	-0.2	6.1	0.0	6.4	-0.7	8.6
Canada	445.4	0.7	4.8	0.1	6.5	0.3	7.2
Denmark	1190.9	3.0	10.4	3.3	10.9	2.5	13.0
Finland	64.5	0.4	0.2	0.6	1.3	-0.1	2.5
(free)	95.5	2.7	11.0	2.9	12.3	2.2	13.6
France	620.9	0.8	8.3	0.9	9.1	0.3	10.8
Germany	739.6	1.7	8.0	1.9	8.7	1.2	10.5
Hong Kong	2122.9	0.5	10.4	0.0	12.8	0.0	12.9
Italy	275.7	1.7	8.0	1.8	8.5	1.2	10.5
Japan	3658.1	-0.2	11.5	-0.1	9.2	-0.6	14.1
Netherlands	770.7	0.5	4.4	0.8	4.9	0.1	6.8
New Zealand	59.1	0.5	14.9	0.3	14.1	0.1	17.5
Norway	1139.6	-0.8	2.3	-0.7	2.4	-1.2	4.7
(free)	199.2	-1.3	2.5	-1.3	2.6	-1.8	4.9
Sing/Malay	1559.1	0.3	7.6	0.0	8.3	-0.2	10.1
Spain	193.5	2.6	17.8	2.8	16.3	2.1	20.6
Sweden	1299.8	2.3	14.2	2.3	14.4	1.8	16.9
(free)	184.9	2.2	11.4	2.2	11.6	1.7	14.0
Switzerland	789.7	0.9	12.0	1.3	13.4	0.4	14.6
(free)	119.0	0.8	10.8	1.2	12.1	0.3	13.3
UK	690.4	0.1	8.0	0.1	6.0	-0.4	10.5
USA	413.4	0.8	8.3	0.3	10.9	0.3	10.9

(lc)* Local currency.

Source: Morgan Stanley Capital International.

FT-SE 100 VOLUMES

	Vol '000		Vol '000		Vol '000		Vol '000
Abbey Nat	8,541	Cadbury	3,585	L&G	645	Royal Bnk	4,346
Alld-Lyons	2,842	CU	313	Lloyds	2,051	Royal Ins	2,288
Anglian	815	Courtaulds	982	Lonrho	1,570	Sainsbury	1,583
ASDA	3,141	Dalgety	302	Lucas	2,870	Scot & N	1,891
AB Foods	425	Enterprise	1,083	M&S	7,896	Sears	5,462
Argyll	1,888	Eurotunnel	478	Maxwell Cm	192	Severn Trnt	868
BAA	6,435	Fisons	4,067	MEPC	811	Shell	3,723
BET	2,590	Gen Acc	848	Midland	2,981	Smith & N	4,178
BTR	7,040	GEC	9,975	Nat West	4,039	SK Beech	3,974
BAT	1,045	Glaxo	1,478	N W Water	849	Sun Allnce	716
Barclays	3,988	Grand Met	4,479	P&O	2,897	Tarmac	5,918
Bass	2,801	GUS 'A'	238	Pearson	288	Tate Lyle	1,982
BICC	2,402	GRE	1,839	Pilkington	4,927	TSB	2,781
Bk Scotlnd	887	GKN	830	Prudential	4,449	Tesco	2,882
Blue Circle	2,625	Guinness	1,949	Racal	5,196	Thames Wtr	1,348
BOC	858	Hamsn 'A'	207	Rk Hovis	2,767	Thorn EMI	535
Boots	1,688	Hanson	10,413	Rank	445	Trafalgar	2,184
Br Aero	3,885	H & C	1,500	R&C	169	THF	3,942
Br Airways	10,850	Hawker	158	Redland	1,838	Ultramar	1,287
Br Gas	9,400	Hillsdown	2,730	Reed	815	Unilever	1,498
Br Petrol	12,110	ICI	1,740	Reuters	1,202	United Bis	1,044
Br Steel	12,523	Kingfisher	787	RMC Gp	809	Wellcome	3,342
Br Telecm	10,260	Lasmo	1,911	RTZ	1,152	Whitbrd	2,887
Burmah Cst	405	Ladbroke	9,737	R-Royce	5,820	Wgn Teape	2,577
C&W	2,204	Land Sec	2,428	Rothmn 'B'	219	Wills Cor	1,388

Shares enjoy brief rally as oil price tumbles

By MARTIN BARROW and MICHAEL CLARK

OIL prices tumbled to a seven-month low in frantic trading as news broke of Iraq's conditional offer to leave Kuwait, providing markets with a indication of the likely reaction when fighting ceases in the Gulf.

The stock market also responded positively at first. In half an hour, share prices shrugged off earlier falls and were more than 20 points ahead as investors tried to absorb the news. But the gains proved short, with the Allies declaring their intention to carry on fighting and John Major, the prime minister, describing the Iraqi offer as a "bogus sham".

Most professional investors quickly concluded that Saddam Hussein's word could not be taken as his bond, and started selling at the height of the rally.

Their tactics took much of the steam out of events, with the equity market reverting to trading levels that were seen before the news from Baghdad of the conditional offer.

North Sea Brent crude for April delivery, having traded at about $18.30 a barrel on the International Petroleum Exchange, tumbled to $16.30 on the announcement.

But cautious diplomatic reaction steadied the market and oil prices recovered to $17.34 a barrel, still showing a net loss of $1.45. In New York, April crude was down $1.24 at $19.25.

The FT-SE 100 index started the day almost 12 points down but rose as investors and dealers alike tried to unwind any remaining positions before the weekend. The index closed up 2.5 points at 2,296.9 — a rise on the week of 51.7 — helped by a firm start to trading on Wall Street. The index has now risen 131.2 since the beginning of the month.

Dealers reported good two-way trading, despite the fluctuations during the day, and said there was little evidence of any willingness on the part of institutions to sell shares.

The fall in the annual rate of inflation to 9 per cent was in line with City expectations.

This week's cut in base rates was largely discounted by fund managers, but most are taking a longer-term view of prospects and expect further reductions in the weeks ahead. Bonds were left nursing falls of almost £1 at the longer end after the government issued a further £500 million tranche of Treasury 10 per cent 2001.

Oil prices, which have traded within a range of $18 to $21 since the outbreak of the Gulf war, would have fallen to about $15 if the peace had been a real one.

Traders believe that peace in the Gulf will herald a collapse in prices as western nations begin to reduce record levels of strategic oil stocks, accumulated to soften the impact of a potential interruption of the oil flow from Saudi Arabia.

With Opec output already exceeding pre-invasion levels and demand softening as the recession bites in Britain and the United States, the threat of an oil glut could become a reality.

Opec is scheduled to meet in Vienna on March 11, when it could seek to reimpose the quotas that were suspended after the invasion of Kuwait, in an effort to force crude back up to its benchmark price of $21 a barrel.

● The gold price in London swung wildly on news of Gulf developments. Initially, the price of bullion fell by $5 to $360 an ounce on reports that Iraq was withdrawing from Kuwait.

In later trading, gold advanced but closed at $365.25 for a $3 fall on the day. Silver held on to a 3 cent gain to close at 194.75 cents an ounce.

Sterling firms in ERM after inflation boost

By COLIN NARBROUGH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

THE pound ended the week on a firm note, buoyed by the weaker mark, and encouraged by the latest British inflation figures which were seen as further justification for Wednesday's half-point base rate cut.

Fears that lower interest rates would weaken sterling dangerously appeared unfounded, with the currency closing at DM2.9060, up from DM2.9044 on Thursday. It had been above DM2.91 during the day.

Reports that Iraq might be prepared to withdraw from Kuwait boosted the dollar for a time before Washington knocked down the news as delaying tactics by Baghdad.

At the London close, the pound was a cent lower against the stronger dollar at $1.9715. But on its trade-weighted index, it ended steady at 94.4.

A welter of American economic indicators failed to change sentiment for the dollar significantly. The pound, meanwhile, showed a sufficiently firm tone to climb off the bottom of the European exchange-rate mechanism, leaving the franc beneath it.

Before this week's base rate cut, it had been feared that a premature, politically-driven monetary easing would force sterling to test its ERM floor.

Britain's retail price index for January showed an annual rise of 9.0 per cent, after 9.3 per cent in December. Though in line with forecasts, City economists saw it as evidence that inflationary pressures have been subdued and that the pressing need now was to lower interest rates.

Neil MacKinnon, chief economist at Yamaichi International, said the figures, marked by record low monthly price changes for household goods, clothing and footwear, confirmed that "disinflation was in progress".

He expects the extended seasonal sales behind the price falls in certain categories of goods to continue this month and next. He sees annual inflation falling to 3.5 per cent by the end of the year.

With inflation in retreat and economic indicators increasingly signalling deepening recession, Mr MacKinnon believes the government will be tempted to cut base rate again, possibly next week, when further evidence of deflation is expected to surface.

The money market was, however, more cautious about the possibility of a fresh cut in interest rates, and appeared to be still absorbing this week's rate move, after the Bank of England through its market operations flagged that it was content with base rate at its present 13.5 per cent.

Economic data published next week are expected to add to the gloom about the continued decline of the economy. Provisional retail sales on Monday are likely to largely reverse the surprise rise in December. City forecasts centre on a January fall of 1.2 per cent for an annual drop of nearly 1 per cent.

Gwyn Hacche, UK economist at James Capel, said anecdotal evidence points to the deterioration in retail sales being "pretty serious".

Money supply and bank lending data on Wednesday are expected to show growth in M0, the narrow money measure, picking up to about 3 per cent in January from 2.7 per cent in December.

The Bank of England's weekly notes data meanwhile point to M0 decelerating again this month to about 2.5 per cent.

Output-based gross domestic product figures, also out Wednesday, will reveal the depth of the economic decline in the final quarter of last year. Forecasts focus on a fall of nearly 1 per cent.

Stratagem extends hostile bid

STRATAGEM Group, the investment company that recently declared its all-share offer for Touchstone Group, the computer services company, partially unconditional, expects to contact Touchstone shareholders soon.

Stratagem's offer has been extended until March 1. It claims to have acceptances for 55.3 per cent of Touchstone ordinary shares.

Maxwell sells

Robert Maxwell, the publisher, has sold a 10 per cent stake in TF1, the private French television network. Pergamon Media Trust sold the stake on February 4, when Goldman Sachs, the American investment bank acquired a 10 per cent interest in the channel.

Lee 'to fall'

Arthur Lee & Sons, the Sheffield steel and plastics group, said interim profits to March 31 would fall "well short" of the previous year's pre-tax interim profits of £2.7 million — 28 per cent below comparable figures to March 1989.

Rothmans rise

Rothmans Inc, the Canadian subsidiary of Rothmans International, reports higher earnings for the nine months ended December 31. Net earnings were Can$34.7 million (Can$30.9 million).

Chancery halted

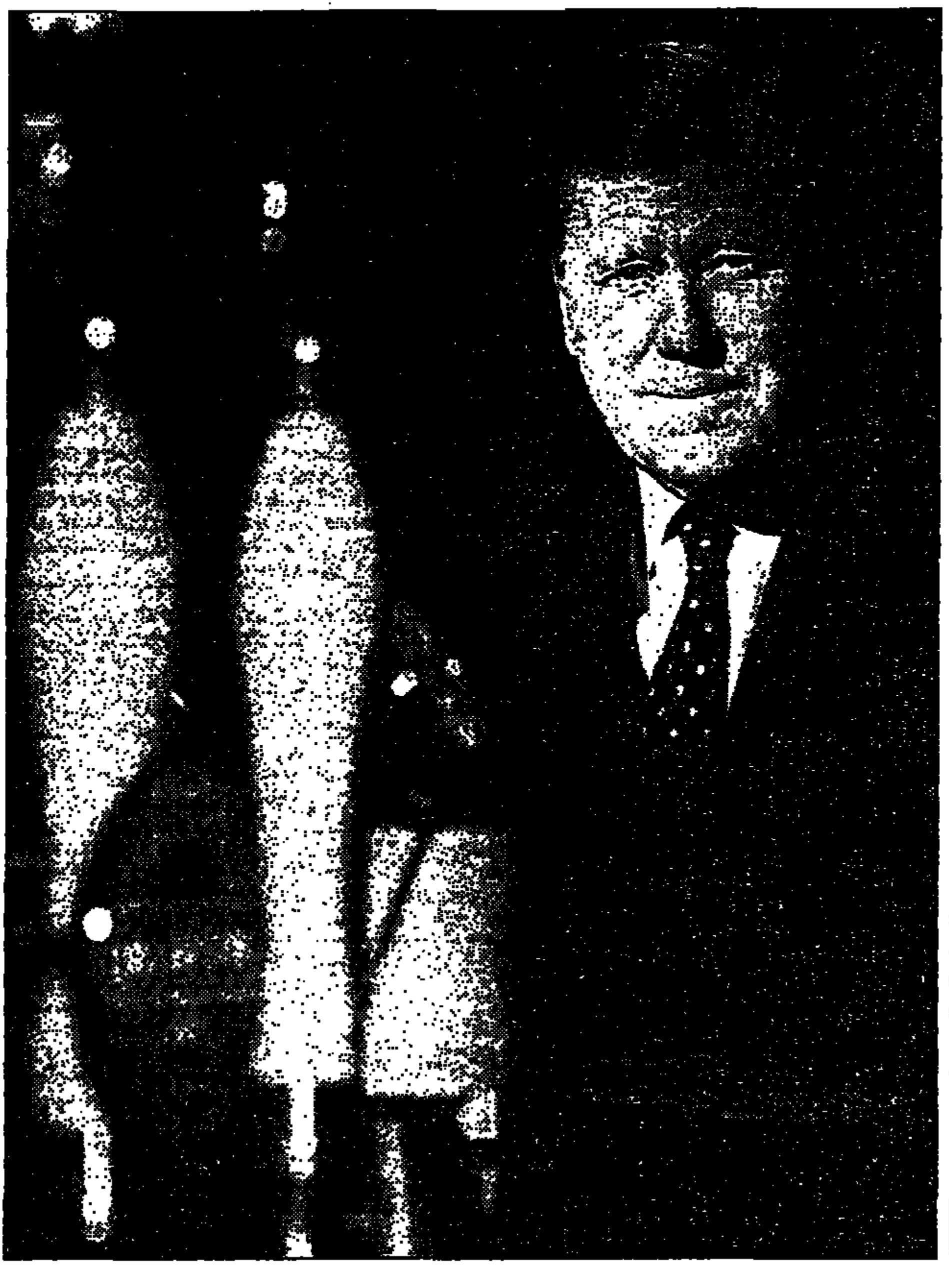
Shares in Chancery, the banking and financial services group, were suspended at 36p pending an announcement. One year ago the shares were worth 160p.

Allied take-up

Allied Insurance Brokers had a 48 per cent take-up from shareholders for its one-for-four open offer at 103p.

Steel down

Steel production in Britain averaged 309,500 tonnes a week in January, down 11.3 per cent on a year ago.



Delighted with the sale: Sir Derrick Holden-Brown, chairman of Allied-Lyons

Olympia & York sells stake in Allied-Lyons

By MATTHEW BOND

NEARLY 81 million shares in Allied-Lyons, the food and drinks group, were placed with institutions after Barclays de Zoete Wedd paid Olympia & York almost £400 million for them.

The placing by BZW, Cazenove and Lehman Brothers, the brokers, came after Olympia & York, the Canadian property group, ended weeks of speculation by saying it had converted its preference shares in Allied into ordinary shares. O&Y, developer of the Canary Wharf project in London Docklands, had been free to do so since the beginning of this year. This had cast a cloud over Allied's share price performance.

The new ordinary shares — about 9.5 per cent of the enlarged equity — were placed with about 100 institutions within half an hour of an announcement at 9.30am that O&Y had converted its preference stock. Institutions paid 497.5p a share, a 3 per cent discount to Thursday's closing price. Buoyant demand meant some applications were scaled down.

Allied-Lyons, where Sir Derrick Holden-Brown is chairman, was delighted the shares had been placed. Cliff Hatch, the finance director, said: "It must be good news for both the company and the other 91 per cent of our shareholders. Any potential overhang has now been removed."

Allied shares fell 11p to 502p on news of the placing. Dealers said the fall was very modest.

BZW was also pleased with the outcome of its biggest ever bought deal. Simon de Zoete, deputy chairman of BZW Equities, said: "It was a satisfactory transaction, if a very complex transaction." Because the ordinary shares were not listed when BZW bought them, the price it paid does not need to be disclosed. As a result, BZW's "turn" on the deal cannot be calculated. The shares became listed in the afternoon.

O&Y's subsidiary GW Utilities acquired the preference shares in 1987 as part consideration for its Hiram Walker liquor division, which it sold to Allied for £1.2 billion. GW said the stake sale for £395.1 million left the company debt-free and with considerable cash reserves.

Paul Reichmann, Olympia & York president, said the disposal was part of a long-term plan.

US trade deficit narrows to $6bn

By OUR ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

FALLING oil prices helped the American trade deficit to narrow by almost a third in December and pushed down wholesale price inflation to 0.1 per cent last month. Figures released yesterday also showed continuing declines in industrial production and capacity utilisation in January.

The Commerce Department said the December trade deficit was $6.25 billion after $8.91 billion in November, reflecting a drop in imports, helped by the lower dollar and smaller oil bill. The November deficit was revised down from $9.70 billion, bringing the trade deficit for 1990 to just under $101 billion, the lowest for seven years.

This compared with a shortfall of $109.4 billion in 1989. Without the increase in oil prices last August, the annual deficit would have fallen to $91.0 billion, Commerce department economists said.

The improvement in trade surprised Wall Street analysts, who had expected the deficit to narrow only slightly from November. Oil imports, in volume terms, fell for the third consecutive month, while the value declined by more than $1 billion to $6.3 billion.

The producer *price index* fell for the second month in a row. In December, it fell 0.6 per cent. However, the so-called "core" inflation figure, excluding energy and food, jumped by 0.5 per cent in January, after a 0.2 per cent rise in December. This core rate, closely followed by bond investors, was considerably worse than the 0.2 per cent increase expected by Wall Street and provoked a small sell-off in the bond market.

Industrial output and capacity use both declined in January: industrial production fell 0.4 per cent and capacity utilisation fell to 79.9 per cent from 80.4 per cent.

Haynes profit falls £1.1m

By PHILIP PANGALOS

SHARES in Haynes Publishing Group, the car and motorcycle manual publisher, fell 30p to 135p when the interim dividend was cut after first half pre-tax profits slid from *£1.66 million to £494,000 in* the six months to November.

The company blamed the fall on reduced British demand, which was affected by the recession and destocking, and the impact of the stronger pound making exports to America less profitable.

John Haynes, the chairman, said: "Sales of our main products are back to 1986 levels. They are based on sales *of cars — when car sales are* down, our manuals fall."

Turnover climbed from £7.99 million to £9.56 million, with the increase due to the acquisition of Patrick Stephens and distribution of books for an American publisher. Earnings per share plunged from 10.13p to 2.85p. The interim dividend has been cut from 4.5p to 1p.

Haynes plans to cut British *costs which will result in* redundancies for up to 10 per cent of the workforce. British trading profits fell to £179,000 from £1.21 million on turnover up from £5.43 million to £5,82 million.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Four directors resign from Parkfield Group

ROGER Felber and three other directors of Parkfield Group, the entertainment and engineering conglomerate that collapsed last July and which is now under administration, have resigned. Mr Felber was the leading personality behind Parkfield, which was the best performing share in the market at one time.

His resignation yesterday and that of Colin Davies, Anthony Capper and David Jones comes as no surprise. Last year, following a series of profit warnings by the company, it was announced that Parkfield had debts of £275 million. The shares were suspended at 45p, and on July 19 Cork Gully was appointed as administrator.

Payout passed at Cranbrook

PRE-TAX losses at Cranbrook Electronic Holdings, the USM electronic components distributor, deepened to £696,000 (£489,000) in the year to end-September. Turnover declined to £10.5 million (£11.2 million). The loss per share stood at 6.61p (4.28p). There is no dividend. There was an exceptional loss of £208,000. The shares lost 1p to *10p*.

Fairway tops a million

FAIRWAY (London), the USM supplier of stationery, lifted pre-tax profits to £1.05 million (£756,000) in the year to end-December. Turnover grew to £8.36 million (£5.85 million). Earnings per share climb to 4.6p (3.81p). The final dividend is raised to 2p (1.75p) making a total of 3p (2.75p). Interest payments rose to £254,000 *(£6,000)*.

War hurts Vard

VARD, the London listed Norwegian shipping group, said profits fell from NKr478 million (£42 million) to NKr205 million in 1990 as a result of the Gulf war. Kloster Cruise, the luxury cruise line, contributed profits down from NKr298 million to NKr223 million.

A loss is likely during the first quarter of the current year although the company believes cost cutting will enable it to return to profit for the year as a whole. Finanshuset, which encompasses Vard's financial services and shipbroking *activities, lost NKr15 million (NKr168 million profit)* after extraordinary writedowns of NKr120 million in respect of investment losses and lower ship values following the invasion of Kuwait.

No referral on CGE-Talkland

THE trade department has decided not to refer the proposed acquisition by France's Compagnie Générale des Eaux of a 51 per cent *shareholding* in Talkland International to the monopolies commission. CGE has bought the holding of Gamelstaden, a Swedish finance firm, in Talkland, a British cellular radio service company.

Elms bought by Halma

HALMA, the environmental products group, has acquired Elms Lightning Tools and Fasteners for £1.08 million in cash, shares and loan notes. Elms *made* a pre-tax profit of £101,737 in the year to end-September, after charging salary and pension contributions totalling £224,010. The Elms business will be integrated into SEAC, a Halma subsidiary.

TC Coombs defaults

TC COOMBS, the London stockbroker suspended this month after a breach of capital adequacy requirements, has been declared a *defaulter by* the International Stock Exchange. The ISE said it took the action because the company was "unable to comply with its obligations".

The Securities Association ordered the company to cease investment business on February 1. Patrick Mahon, the chairman, and Andrew Kent, corporate development manager, have been charged with conspiracy to defraud TSA. They have been released on bail of £500,000 each. Ernst & Young, the accountant, has been appointed administrative receiver to the company.

RECENT ISSUES

EQUITIES

Atlantis Resources	37
Aberforth Smlr (100p)	100
Brabant Res (155p)	134
CMW Group (30p)	25
Castle Cairn (50p)	30
EFM Java Tst (50p)	37
Eidos (100p)	58
Faber Prest (175p)	140
Foreign & Col	42
Invergordon (135p)	153 −2
Levercrest (108p)	88
MMEC	3½
MMI (20p)	19
Malaysia Capital	25⅝
Midland Radio	95
Paramount (10p)	10 +½
Pelican Gp (50p)	25
Proteus Intl (84p)	101
Seton Healthcare	158 +2
St James Place (130p)	86
Smaller IT	80
Stand Platform (225p)	180
Tr Euro Gwth (100p)	90
Trio Inv Tst	44
Utd Energy	1¼
Utd Uniform	88
Unichem (100p)	133 +2
Wig Tpe App	209

● *See main prices page for Electricity shares*

RIGHTS ISSUES

Tesco N/P	43 −1

(issue price in brackets).

MAJOR INDICES

New York:	
Dow Jones	2899.75 (+22.52)*
S&P Composite	366.45 (+2.23)*
Tokyo:	
Nikkei Average	25343.74 (−12.63)
Hong Kong:	
Hang Seng	Closed
FT-SE Eurotrack	1024.86 (+11.84)
Amsterdam:	
CBS Tendency	86.8 (+1.7)
Sydney: AO	1376.6 (+3.8)
Frankfurt: DAX	1531.19 (+44.67)
Brussels:	
General	5320.18 (+68.00)
Paris: CAC	440.34 (+2.35)
Zurich: SKA Gen	518.4 (+8.1)
London:	
FT.—A All-Share	1106.06 (+2.46)
FT.— "500"	1217.33 (+3.56)
FT. Gold Mines	134.5 (−1.6)
FT. Fixed interest	93.95 (+0.03)
FT. Govt Secs	85.65 (−0.09)
Bargains	37105
SEAQ Volume	571.5m
USM (Datastream)	115.77 (−0.04)

*Denotes latest trading price

Business chiefs dismiss Kuwait contract fears

Lord Prior: headed talks

By ROSS TIEMAN
INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

FEARS that British companies will miss out on contracts for the $100 billion reconstruction of Kuwait have been dismissed by business leaders after a Gulf visit.

Lord Prior, chairman of the General Electric Company, who headed talks between ten industrialists and the Sheikh Saad al-Sabah, Kuwaiti prime minister and crown prince, said: "From all that I have heard, I don't think these fears are justified."

Lord Prior said most of the initial work of making buildings safe and removing mines and booby traps would fall to the Americans. A $46.3 million contract for preliminary emergency work has been placed with the United States Army Corps of *Engineers. Bechtel, the American* construction group, has been contracted to make oil and gas installations work again.

Jim Langford, a director of Costain, the construction group, and president of the Export Group for the Construction Industry, accompanied Lord Prior and Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, at the talks.

He said the Kuwaitis were likely to spend billions of dollars in the first year after Iraq's withdrawal on the restoration of basic services such as water, sewers, power, telecommunications and hospital equipment. Thereafter, a reconstruction programme lasting a decade or more was likely to develop.

"Kuwait acknowledges the help that Britain has given, both in 1961 and again now," said Mr Langford. *"They would like to work with us. For* the past five or ten years, British contractors have found it difficult to win work in Kuwait on sensible contract conditions. I would hope that this will prove an opportunity for British companies to re-establish themselves in Kuwait. We have the expertise." He said there was also likely to be construction work upgrading defences in Saudi Arabia.

The trade department has been criticised for failing to promote British interests, but the department insists it has been developing plans for British involvement in reconstruction since November. After last weekend's visit, the DTI is to establish an office staffed by industry representatives at Dammam, Saudi Arabia, where the Kuwaiti taskforce charged with reconstruction is based. *Christopher Wilton*, the commercial counsellor at the British embassy in Riyadh, is moving to Dammam to head the operation.

Gulf contracts are unlikely to lead to a repeat of the mass migration of British workers to the Gulf seen in the Seventies. For political and economic reasons, Gulf states will find it more attractive to recruit as much labour as possible from Arab states. However, many British construction groups and manufacturers of heavy equipment for power generation and industrial processing are under pressure from recession in their home market.

Orders from Gulf states will be welcome, but a fall in the oil price, which is expected to accompany the end of hostilities, may do as much to rekindle economic growth in Britain and America.

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NEW YORK

Dow ahead 12 points

New York
BLUE chips retreated in morning dealings after rising on *futures-related* buy programs. The Dow Jones industrial average was up 12 points to 2,889.23 after reaching about the 2,905 level.

Analysts said that an Iraqi offer to withdraw from Kuwait, despite linking a pullout to the Palestinian issue, raised investors' hopes that a peaceful resolution to the Gulf war could be found.

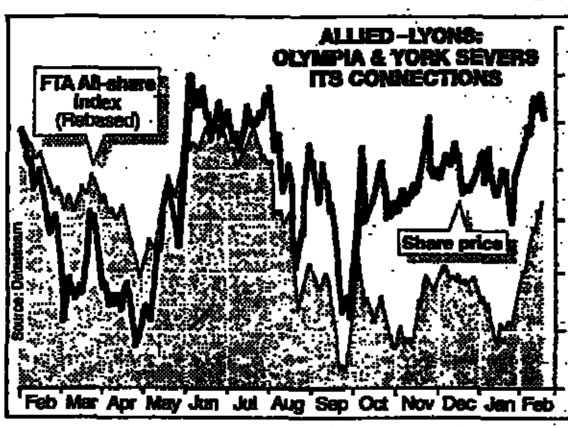
● **Sydney** – A barrage of buy orders in the last 30 minutes pushed the market into positive territory.

The All-Ordinaries index closed 3.8 points stronger at 1,376.60. The rise brought the week's gain to 36.2 points, or 2.7 per cent. *(Reuter)*

WALL STREET

STOCK MARKET

Wellcome falls 27p after US criticism of Retrovir



SHARES in Wellcome, the pharmaceuticals group, tumbled 27p to 498p, after briefly touching 473p, in response to a stinging attack in the United States on Retrovir, Wellcome's anti-Aids drug.

A study by the influential Department of Veterans' Affairs suggests that AZT, the generic name for Retrovir, has not been as effective as had been first believed. The department also claimed that there was evidence to suggest that it was even less effective among black and hispanic sufferers.

Retrovir is the only officially approved anti-Aids drug in America. It has been designed to slow down the spread of the disease in the body. It is also available for patients with the symptoms of Aids as well as those having the full disease and this is potentially the biggest market for Retrovir. However, sales growth has been slow, with psychological resistance among sufferers.

Wellcome said that the American Food and Drug Administration had not changed its opinion of the drug despite the unfavourable test results.

Despite yesterday's fall in the share price, brokers such as Hoare Govett maintain that the shares' rating is still too high with the City's expectations based solely on the progress of Retrovir.

Among other the pharmaceuticals, **Fisons** continued to *benefit from a survey that* concluded that Intal and Tilade, its anti-asthma drugs, were the best available.

Iraq's proposals for withdrawing from Kuwait provided a brief flurry of activity that sent the FT-SE 100 index soaring more than 20 points, only to see the gains whittled away in less than half an hour as *the government dismissed* the offer as a "sham".

Prices spent the rest of the day trading in narrow limits with dealers unwinding their positions before the weekend break. But there was little genuine selling although turnover was again a healthy 571 million shares. The index finished 2.5 up at 2,296.9, a rise on the week of 51.7. The FT index of 30 shares rose 7.0 to 1,824.5.

Bonds were left nursing falls of almost £1 at the longer end as the government issued a *further £500 million* of Treasury, 10 per cent, 2001.

Allied-Lyons, the drinks and food group, fell 12p to 501p as Olympia & York, the Canadian property group, disposed of its 9.5 per cent holding. The holding, in the form of convertible preference shares, was converted into 81 million ordinary shares and placed with institutions by Cazenove and BZW at 497½p a share.

The sale raised £400 million for O&Y and has scuppered any remaining element of takeover speculation in the Allied price.

There are growing worries that a rights issue queue has started to build up. **Tarmac** fell 6p to 249p despite denying rumours that it was considering a fund-raising operation. Construction companies have found their cashflows under pressure because of the down*turn in the building and* property sectors.

Midland Bank fell 6p to 176p on claims that it about to turn to the City for finance and the news of a possible downgrading of its debt rating by Standard & Poor's. Provisions for bad and doubtful debts resulted in losses of £261 million in 1989 and analysts are still forecasting a deficit of about £30 million for the year just ended.

These had led to revived fears about the group's ability to maintain the dividend when the annual reporting season starts next week with **Lloyds Bank**, 1p firmer at 323p, on Friday. Analysts are looking for pre-tax profits of about £585 million compared with last year's loss of £714 million.

Falls were also seen in **Barclays**, 6p to 394p, hit by an S&P debt downgrading from AAA to AA-plus, and **National Westminster**, 4p to 295p.

The sharp fall in the price of crude on world markets after Iraq's withdrawal proposals took its toll among oil shares.

BP, where there has been persistent talk of the Kuwait Investment Office selling its near 10 per cent stake, lost a further 4p at 304p. There were also losses for **Enterprise**, 9p to 533p, **Hardy**, 3p to 177p, **Lasmo**, 9p to 355p, **Shell**, 4p to 455p, and **Ultramar**, 1p to 318p. Only **Burmah** resisted the trend, with a rise of 8p to 565p, as the bear squeeze continued. Several market-makers are known to be short of stock.

The peace proposals, although treated sceptically by all, brought some relief to the hard-pressed hoteliers. **Friendly Hotels** firmed 1p to 204p, **Queens Moat** 3p to 90p, **Ryan Hotels** 1p to 38½p, **Stakis** 1p to 50p, **Trusthouse Forte** 5p to 254p, and **Ladbroke** 8p to 257p.

MICHAEL CLARK

Rolls-Royce has been a dull market recently, suffering several profit downgradings as analysts express fears about the outlook for the airline industry. Broker Smith New Court does not share the rest of the market's concern, but, it says, the shares are only a buy on the assumption that the Gulf war is concluded by Easter. The shares finished 3p dearer at 153p.

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

February 15, 1991 Total: 33853 Calls 24019 Puts 9834 FT-SE: Calls 4686 Puts 2900
*Underlying security price.

TOKYO

Profit-taking ends eight-day rally

Tokyo
SHARES closed slightly easier but well above their afternoon lows as the market followed Wall Street down to end its eight-day rally with some profit-taking. But underlying bullishness limited the decline, with market participants expecting buying to pick up again soon.

The Nikkei index slipped 12.63 points, or 0.05 per cent, to 25,343.74. Turnover fell to 800 million shares, compared with 1.1 billion on Thursday.

The market opened to the news of Wall Street's decline on profit-taking, which started the same here. The Nikkei fell 211.02 below Thursday's close in the first 15 minutes and the index wandered round that area for the rest of the morning.

The early afternoon saw the index fall more than 300 points. But when the slide stopped just above 25,000, buying picked up again on a desire to buy into the ground floor of the next rally. *(Reuter)*

FRANKFURT

Dax rises 44 points on Gulf optimism

Frankfurt
REPORTS that Iraq has offered to withdraw from Kuwait drove shares sharply higher, but the news that Iraq wanted to link any withdrawal to a settlement of the Palestinian question removed some gloss from the rally.

The Dax index ended 44.67 points, or 3 per cent, higher at 1,531.19. This was well below the daytime high of 1,540.68, reached soon after the withdrawal reports broke. Prices had tumbled after Iraq's invasion on August 2. The Dax hit a 21-month low of 1,311.82 on January 16, the day before the allies attacked Iraq. The index had closed at 1,892.89 on August 1, the day before the invasion.

Yesterday's close was still 361.7 points, or 19.1 per cent, below pre-invasion levels. Dealers said trading was likely to remain volatile next week.

One dealer said: "The DAX could swing as high as 1,700 next week, but it is much too early to say." *(Reuter)*

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
February 4	February 15	May 16	May 28

Call options were taken out on: 15/2/91 ADT, Berisford, Brathwaite, Burtons, Cannon Street Inv, Cooksons, Dares Estates, Ford Seller Morris, Walter Lawrence, Queens Moat Houses, Racal, Sale Tilney, Stakis, Tootal, Trafalgar House, Unitech, Wickes.
Puts: Berisford, Blenheim Exhibitions, Sedgwick.

UNLISTED SECURITIES

MONEY MARKETS

Exchange index compared with 1985 was same at 94.4 (day's range 94.3-94.4).

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for Feb 15	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
New Yrk	1.9710-1.9795	1.9710-1.9720	1.07-1.06pr	3.09-3.07pr
Montrl	2.2706-2.2834	2.2708-2.2747	0.48-0.43pr	0.96-0.87pr
Amstrdm	3.2714-3.2795	3.2758-3.2794	1¼-1pr	3¼-3pr
Brussels	59.61-60.01	59.72-59.96	19-16pr	54-48pr
Copnhgn	11.1548-11.2103	11.1647-11.1901	3¼-2¾pr	8¾-7¾pr
Dublin	1.0907-1.0935	1.0907-1.0917	25-19pr	67-52pr
Frankft	2.9038-2.9102	2.9049-2.9077	1¼-¾pr	2¾-2¼pr
Lisbon	254.95-256.32	254.95-256.06	6-27ds	90-129ds
Madrid	181.19-182.29	181.38-182.02	14-19ds	49-62ds
Milan	2176.35-2189.17	2183.87-2189.92	3-1pr	5-3pr
Oslo	11.3372-11.3880	11.3372-11.3627	2¾-2¼pr	7-6½pr
Paris	9.8885-9.9172	9.9023-9.9172	3¼-2¾pr	8¾-8¼pr
Stckhlm	10.8592-10.9098	10.8592-10.8845	1-¾pr	1¾-1¼pr
Tokyo	256.13-257.04	256.53-256.85	1¼-1pr	3¾-3¼pr
Vienna	20.4082-20.5080	20.4472-20.4772	7¾-6pr	19¼-17¾pr
Zurich	2.4930-2.4985	2.4943-2.4985	1¼-1pr	3¼-3pr

Source: Extel *Premium = pr. Discount = ds.*

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 13½ Finance Hse 14
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 13½ Low 13 Week fixed: 13½

OTHER STERLING RATES

Argentina austral*	19050.0-19153.8
Australia dollar	2.5098-2.5144
Bahrain dinar	n/a
Brazil cruzeiro *	437.954-438.657
Cyprus pound	0.834-0.844
Finland marka	7.04-7.10
Greece drachma	309.86-312.85
Hong Kong dollar	15.3794-15.3892
India rupee	37.14-37.54
Kuwait dinar KD	n/a
Malaysia ringgit	5.3100-5.3167
Mexico peso	5850-5950
New Zealand dollar	3.2547-3.2615
Saudi Arabia riyal	n/a
Singapore dollar	3.3834-3.3891
S Africa rand (fin)	8.4000-8.5090
S Africa rand (com)	6.0040-6.0126
U A E dirham	n/a

*Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank*

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Ireland	1.8050-1.8065
Singapore	1.7130-1.7150
Malaysia	2.6900-2.6920
Australia	1.2714-1.2739
Canada	1.1535-1.1545
Sweden	5.5150-5.5200
Norway	5.7575-5.7625
Denmark	5.6690-5.6740
W Germany	1.4720-1.4730
Switzerland	1.2635-1.2645
Netherlands	1.6600-1.6610
France	5.0125-5.0175
Japan	129.85-129.95
Italy	1106.5-1107.5
Belgium (Com)	30.34-30.37
Hong Kong	7.7910-7.7920
Portugal	129.40-129.60
Spain	92.13-92.25
Austria	10.36-10.40

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

GOLD AND PRECIOUS METALS

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

COMMODITIES

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Building sector rises

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began February 11. Dealings end February 22. §Contango day February 25. Settlement day March 4.
§Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

Portfolio PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add these prices to your running total for the week and check this against the weekly dividend figure on this page. If it matches this figure, you have won outright or a share of the total weekly prize money stated. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or loss
1	Coats Viyella	Drapery,Stores	
2	Glynwed	Industrials E-K	
3	Unilever	Industrials S-Z	
4	Leeds	Textiles	
5	Smithkl Beech	Industrials S-Z	
6	Beazer PLC	Building,Roads	
7	Taveners	Foods	
8	Lawrence (Walter)	Building,Roads	
9	Sthrn Water	Water	
10	Scapa	Industrials S-Z	
11	Bennett & Fountain	Electricals	
12	Trusthse Ft	Hotels,Caterers	
13	Dobson Park	Industrials A-D	
14	Ratners Group	Drapery,Stores	
15	Grand Met	Breweries	
16	Erskine Hse	Industrials E-K	
17	Lucas	Motors,Aircraft	
18	Gold Greenless	Paper,Print,Adv	
19	Wheway	Industrials S-Z	
20	Wiggins	Building,Roads	
21	Expamet	Industrials E-K	
22	Nat Aust Bk	Banks,Discount	
23	Bibby (J)	Industrials A-D	
24	Life Sciences	Electricals	
25	Siebe	Industrials S-Z	
26	Macro 4	Electricals	
27	McLeod Russel	Industrials L-R	
28	TSB	Banks,Discount	
29	AB Elect	Electricals	
30	Nu-Swift	Industrials L-R	
31	Owners Abroad	Leisure	
32	Smith David	Paper,Print,Adv	
33	Yorkshire Water	Water	
34	Electrocomponents	Electricals	
35	Rugby Group	Building,Roads	
36	Rockware	Industrials L-R	
37	Bellway	Building,Roads	
38	Carclo Eng	Industrials A-D	
39	Woodside	Oil,Gas	
40	Tibbet & Britten	Transport	
41	Capital Radio	Leisure	
42	Ryl Bk Scot	Banks,Discount	
43	Cowie (T)	Motors,Aircraft	
44	Ricardo Intl	Industrials L-R	
© Times Newspapers Ltd.		Daily Total	

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend						
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £4,000 in today's newspaper.						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

There were no valid claims for the Portfolio Platinum prize yesterday. The £4,000 will be added to Monday's competition.

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

UNDATED

INDEX-LINKED

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

1990/91 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
224	119	Ryl Bk Scot	187	189●	+4	11.2	6.0	8.6
902	613	Schroders	700	720	+11	22.2	3.1	9.7
315	205	Stand Chart	270	275	-5	46.7	17.1	—
158	114	TSB	148	150●	+1	8.5	5.7	11.1
611	409	Union Disc	550	560●	..	46.7	8.4	9.7
525	284	Warburg SG	374	378	+1	20.0	5.3	6.6
179	50	Do 8% 'A'	128	129	..	8.0	6.3	—
50¼	21¾	Wells Fargo	39¼		-1½	—	—	—
279	126	Westpac	182	188	+4	—	—	—
420	280	Wintrust	305	315●	+7	11.9	3.8	8.4

BREWERIES

1990/91 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
524	408	Allied-Lyons	500	503●	-11	23.4	4.7	10.5
1114	805	Bass	990	997	..	42.2	4.4	10.0
170	124	Boddington	144	148	-1	7.2	4.9	15.4
206	161	Bulmer (H P)	185	190●	-3	10.6	5.6	14.2
227	105	Burtonwood Brew	105	110●	..	5.3	4.9	10.1
400	290	Clark (Matthew)	375	383	+4	18.0	4.7	13.2
208	115	Devenish (JA)	154	158	-1	7.1	4.6	11.5
115	48	Fosters Brewing Gp	59	65	..	—	—	—
737	521	Grand Met	725	728●	+3	27.2	3.7	13.3
389	274	Greenall Whit	313	317●	-1	13.3	4.2	12.1
420	313	Greene King	398	406	-1	13.5	3.4	14.4
823	630	Guinness	804	808	-1	21.7	2.7	17.0
955	670¼	Hardys & Hansons	900	915●	+8	44.7	4.9	11.1
259	182	Highland Dist	250	258	—	6.4	2.5	19.3
155	120	Invergordon Dist	152	154	-2	6.7	4.4	13.5
490	375	Mansfield	425	435	—	15.3	3.6	11.2
222	180	Marston Thompson	185	192	—	5.6	2.9	16.4
800	240	Morland	230	250	—	8.6	3.5	12.1
738	483	SA Breweries	670	685	-12	—	—	—
394	276	Scot & New	383	388●	-4	18.2	4.7	12.9
328	174	Vaux Group	212	220	-2	11.7	5.4	11.2
470	360	Whitbread 'A'	455	459	-2	20.4	4.5	12.7
14¼	11¼	Do 'B'	13	14	—	20.4	1.5	37.7
430	339	Wolverhampton & D	423	432	—	12.4	2.9	12.1
495	359	Young 'A'	390	400	—	16.0	4.1	18.5

BUILDING, ROADS

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

DRAPERY, STORES

ELECTRICALS

ELECTRICITY

FINANCE, LAND

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

FOODS

HOTELS, CATERERS

INDUSTRIALS A-D

E - K

L - R

S - Z

INSURANCE

1990/91 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
18¾	8¾	Alex & Alex	13½		-¼	—	—	—
30	12¼	Am Gen	18¼		●-¼	—	—	—
143	83	Archer (AJ)	103	108●	..	11.2	10.6	6.5
276	194	Bradstock	273	280	+3	12.0	4.3	15.7
729	549	Britannic	669	672	+4	29.7	4.4	—
532	406	Com Union	510	513	+5	29.6	5.8	—
136	35	FAI	39	45	+4	—	—	—
548	421	Gen Accident	530	535	+10	34.6	6.5	—
284	164	GRE	210	213	+3	16.9	7.5	—
555	360	Heath C E	470	477	+10	34.5	7.3	14.0
182	138	Hogg Gp	175	180	—	10.0	5.6	12.9
440	344	Legal & Gen	393	396	+8	22.0	5.6	—
374	274	Lloyds Abbey	372	375	+4	22.7	6.1	—
320	265	Lloyd Thompson	313	323	+7	10.0	3.1	17.6
373	283	London & Man	326	332	-1	16.6	5.0	24.6
44	30	Lon Utd Inv			..	..1	—	—
40¾	31¾	Marsh McLen	36¾		●-¼	—	—	—
94	48	PWS	93	96	+1	4.7	5.0	11.5
245	187	Prudential	215	217	+1	12.8	5.9	—
722	549	Refuge	615	617	-1	33.7	6.5	—
592	335	Royal	416	423	-7	34.7	8.2	—
314	187	Sedgwick	244	248	+6	16.0	6.5	28.2
292	222	Steel Burrill	263	273	—	16.0	6.0	17.1
290	180	Stenhouse Hldgs	243	246●	-1	22.0	8.9	8.4
370	281¼	Sun Alliance	385	389	+4	17.3	4.7	—
13¾	865	Sun Life	11	11¼	—	59.8	5.3	—
158	101	Trade Indemnity	105	108	..	2.8	2.6	10.4
235	185	Willis Corroon	204	208	+2	17.6b	8.2	16.8
32	10	Windsor	14	16	—	—	—	41.7

Investment Trusts appear on Page 30

LEISURE

MINING

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT

NEWSPAPERS, PUBLISHERS

OILS, GAS

Portfolio PLATINUM

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SURNAME DATE OF BIRTH D M Y
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IF YOU HAVE A NATIONAL INSURANCE NUMBER YOU MUST WRITE IT HERE

DO YOU HAVE OR HAVE YOU HAD AN INVESTMENT OR MORTGAGE ACCOUNT WITH THE SOCIETY IN THE LAST 2 YEARS? YES ☐ NO ☐

DECLARATION · I do not already have a TESSA. I will not open another TESSA whilst this account remains a TESSA. This account is not and will not be held on behalf of any other person than myself. I am aged 18 or over. The information supplied on this application form is true to the best of my knowledge. I agree to be bound by the rules of the society. WARNING: False statements may result in penalties or prosecution.

USUAL SIGNATURE DATE
OFFICE USE ONLY ACCOUNT NO.
DATE ACCOUNT OPENED

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Minimum Investment £100. Maximum lump sum investment in year one £3000. Maximum investment in subsequent four years £1800 per year. Overall maximum in five years £9000. Interest credited annually on 31st December each year and at the end of the five year term. To obtain 4% bonus, accounts must be opened before 1st May 1991. Bonus will be based on the investment account balance as at 31st December 1991 and will be credited to the account at the end of the five year term provided the conditions of the account have been met in full. Interest rate variable and guaranteed to always be at least 4% higher than the Society's gross variable Paid-up Share rate.

Banks and societies await further cut in base rates

By Sara McConnell

PAULA YOUENS

SEVERAL banks and building societies have already announced cuts in mortgage rates after this week's half-point cut in base rates, but most say they are holding out for a further drop of at least another 0.5 per cent.

The Norwich and Peterborough Building Society has cut its rate on mortgages of £60,000 and over from 14.5 per cent to 13.5 per cent for new customers. Existing customers are still paying 14.5 per cent and the majority of the society's 33,000 customers whose rates are reviewed annually will continue to pay the 14.5 per cent rate set at the beginning of this month.

The Bradford and Bingley will be cutting its rate for new borrowers from 14.5 per cent to 14 per cent on Monday. Existing borrowers will pay the 14.5 per cent annual review rate set this month.

Allied Irish Bank has cut its rate for new borrowers by half a point to 14.1 per cent. Existing borrowers will see their rates cut from March 20. Rates for first-time buyers have been cut to 13.1 per cent for the first year, while people who borrow more than £60,000 will pay 13.6 per cent for the first two years of the term.

The first of the centralised lenders to cut its rates was the Independent Mortgage Corporation. The standard rate has been cut from 14.85 per cent to 13.9 per cent for new and existing borrowers with immediate effect, while the company's two-year fixed rate mortgage has been cut to 12.75 per cent from 12.95 per cent.

However, most mortgage rates look likely to stay at about 14.5 per cent until the base rate drops to 13 per cent. Customers of some of the largest building societies, including the Halifax, Nationwide, Leeds Permanent and National & Provincial, have their rates reviewed annually and thousands will find themselves paying more, not less for their mortgages.

The Leeds Permanent decided on Thursday to raise rates to 14.5 per cent for 200,000 borrowers who had opted to continue paying 13.45 per cent since last October's rate cut. This will mean an averge increase of 10 per cent on monthly payments or an extra £30 a month on a typical £40,000 endowment loan.

Building societies say that another half-point cut could mean a fall of between 0.5 and 1 per cent in the mortgage rate.

The small cut in interest rates has come too late to help the thousands of people who are six months or more in arrears with mortgage repayments or who face having their homes repossessed. Even a 1 per cent cut would keep mortgage rates four points higher than their low of 9.5 per cent in 1988, when most people now facing repossession bought their homes.

Mark Boléat, director general of the Council of Mortgage Lenders, said high interest rates had been a major cause of the "significant increase in arrears and possessions" particularly because rates had remained high for so long.

"People's inability to get out of trouble is linked to high interest rates. There is light at the end of the tunnel but there are still a lot of cases in the pipeline.

"If the bank base rate comes down and this gets the housing market going, some people with court orders against them could sell their houses," he said.

The Council of Mortgage Lenders announced on Thursday that repossessions in 1990 had nearly trebled since 1989, up to 43,890 compared with 15,810 in 1989. Loans of six to 12 months in arrears rose to 123,110 last December, up from 87,790 at the end of June. The number of loans 12 months or more in arrears rose from 21,580 to 36,100.

The council said these figures were the worst since it had started to keep records in 1979. For the first time, the figures cover banks, building societies and specialist lenders accounting for 90 per cent of all mortgages in Britain.

☐ The fall in base rates has prompted most of the major high street banks to cut the interest rates on their savings accounts, even though they do not intend to make a comparable reduction to their mortgage rates for the time being (Liz Dolan writes).

National Westminster led the way on Thursday with an across the board reduction on all its accounts. Customers with interest bearing current accounts suffer most. NatWest has three such accounts: Current Plus, Card Plus and Student Plus. The rates on all three have been cut 1 per cent to 3.5 per cent. Rates on all other accounts have fallen an average of 0.375 per cent.

The bank was reluctant to say why current account rates had been reduced by such a large margin. "We constantly review our rates, and we obviously take into account factors such as market conditions, competition and the cost of money when making revisions," a spokesman said.

Lloyds yesterday reduced rates on all accounts by half a point. The current account rate fell to 3 per cent (5 per cent on balances above £500). The Bank of Scotland has also made similar reductions on all accounts.

The Royal Bank of Scotland chose to bring down the rate on just one account, its Premium high interest cheque account, which falls from 8.95 per cent to 8.55 per cent. All other rates will remain unchanged for the time being.

Announcements from Barclays, Midland and TSB are expected early next week, but building societies look likely to follow their usual practice of cutting savings rates only after a reduction in the mortgage rate.

Property slump lands next of kin with interest bill

RELATIVES of elderly people who have taken out mortgage annuity home income plans may end up paying the interest on the loan when the home owner dies (Sara McConnell writes).

Paying: Michael Pace

Mortgage annuity home income plans allow older people to unlock the equity in their homes by taking out a mortgage on the property. The loan buys an annuity that pays off the mortgage interest, fixed at 8.25 per cent during the life of the home owner.

After the home owner's death, surviving relatives have to pay off the loan, usually by selling the property on which the loan was taken out. However, the housing slump means some relatives are unable to sell and are faced with large monthly interest repayments. Interest rates on home income plan mortgages usually revert to normal variable rates after the death of the planholder.

Michael Pace put his mother's flat in Sussex on the market last May for £132,000 because she needed to go into a home. There was a mortgage of £25,000 on the flat, which Mr Pace's parents had taken out 15 years before as part of an Allied Dunbar fixed rate mortgage annuity plan. Mrs Pace died in August and in November her son dropped the price of the flat to £119,000. It is still on the market with four estate agents, who may drop the price to £110,000.

Because he cannot sell the house, Mr Pace is having to pay £250 a month interest on the mortgage. This is charged at 14.5 per cent.

Dave Matthews, investment marketing consultant at Allied Dunbar said: "We try to make it as clear as possible up front that it is a fixed rate throughout the life of the annuitant and on death it reverts to a normal variable rate. We put it in our marketing letter and solicitors have to complete a certificate saying they have explained the small print to the client.

"The last thing we want to do is move in and take possession but we need to make the plan commercially viable."

Companies normally have the right to repossess the property six months after the death of the policyholder, but home income plan providers say this is unknown so far.

Interest on the Allied Dunbar plan mortgage after death is based on Halifax rates, at present 14.5 per cent. Interest is rolled up until the property is sold but if rates go up, executors only pay the higher rate as long as it lasts, not on the whole amount of interest rolled up.

Allied Dunbar and other home income plan providers report increasing problems with executors unable to sell property and pay back loans taken out on them.

EDITED BY SARA McCONNELL

Banks to auction seized houses

By Rodney Hobson

ABOUT 20 repossessed flats and houses will be on auction at the Homebuyers Show exhibition in London next week, and they are likely to be sold at knock-down prices.

All the properties have been seized because of mortgage arrears and in some cases the auction price will not cover the outstanding mortgages. This will leave the banks and building societies involved nursing losses. The properties have stood empty for three to six months because it was not possible to find buyers at the estate agents' valuations.

Stickley & Kent, auctioneers based at Regents Park, London, have been invited by the show organisers to stage the auction next Friday at the Barbican Centre. The repossessed properties are among 41 lots to be sold. Most are in the Southeast but there is a cottage near Wrexham in Wales, a rest home near Bournemouth, a Victorian semi-detached house in Manchester and a family house in Norwich.

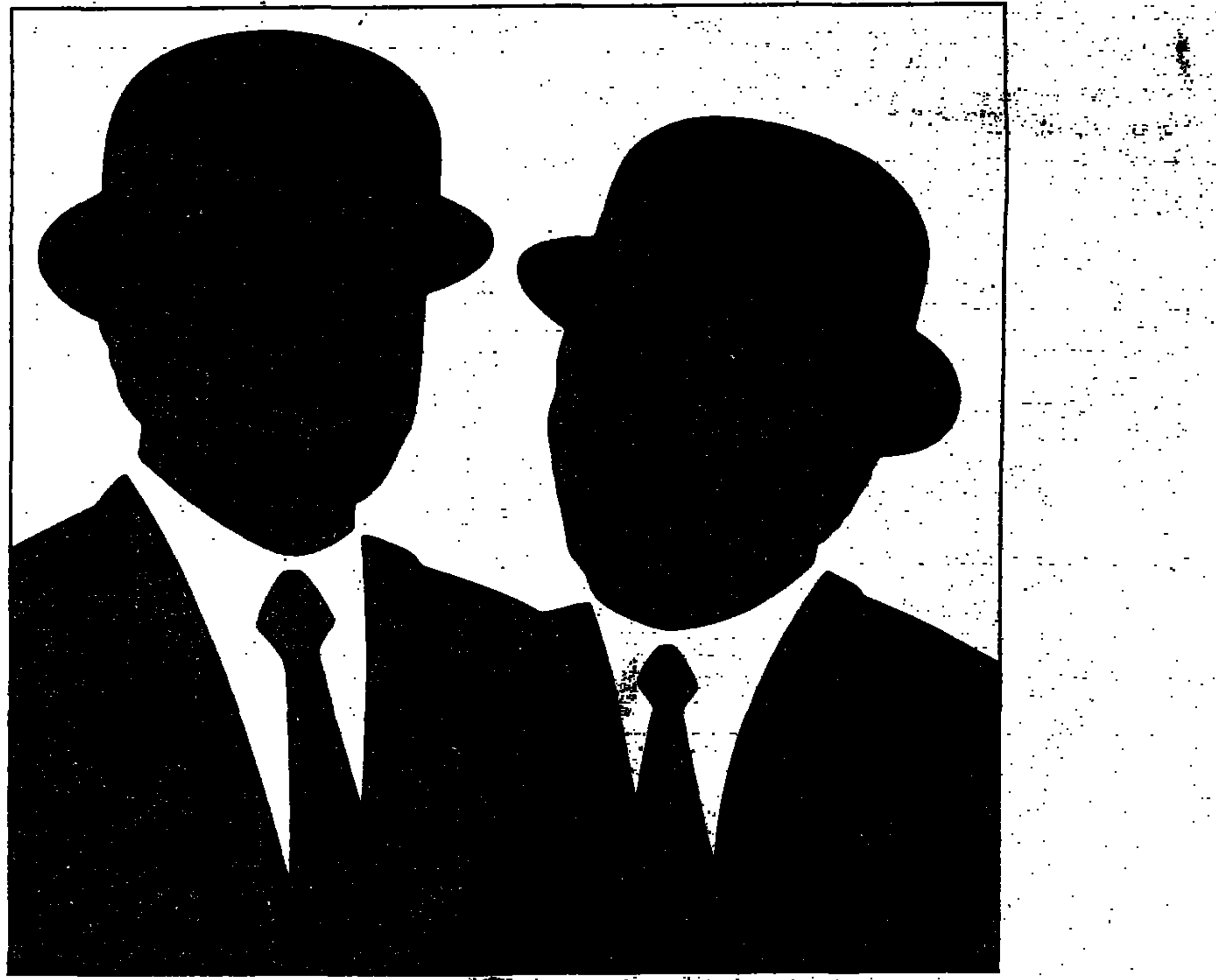
Ray Mitchell, manager at Stickley & Kent, said: "The lenders have now got to shift these properties as quickly as possible. They all have reserve prices but an £80,000 house is likely to have a reserve as low as £50,000 or £55,000. It may well be sold at £60,000 or £65,000. Even if it does not reach its reserve price there is still a good chance that the best bid will secure it after we have taken instructions from the vendor."

"A buyer with some money really is in a very lucky position."

Buying at auction has several advantages over buying through an estate agent. The successful purchaser exchanges contracts immediately the auctioneer's hammer falls. The bidder has to produce a solicitor's cheque or banker's draft to cover a 10 per cent deposit.

Where the successful bid is lower than the outstanding mortgage — some properties may have outstanding mortgages of up to 100 per cent of the estate agent's valuation — the building society or bank has to write off the debt.

The property will normally be unoccupied and the auctioneers will have already carried out searches and prepared documentation that can be supplied to the buyer's solicitors, cutting legal costs and saving time. The main drawback is that a prospective buyer incurs costs arranging a mortgage and instructing a solicitor for a bid that may be unsuccessful.



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LETTERS

Old penny piece held answer to inflation

From Lord Killearn

Sir, Your interesting article (Weekend Money, February 9) about the decimalisation of the currency 20 years ago, and the debate whether to base the new system on the then £1 or 10/- unit, reminds me of a third, infinitely preferable system which was, as far as I know, never even considered.

This would have been to retain the existing 1d piece, with its robust presence in purse or pocket, and in the shop, pub, or bus – which is, after all, where prices are made and felt – rather than in banks and accountants' offices. Twenty-five of these pence (not 24) to the quarter, equivalent to the old Florin; and 100 pence (four quarters) to the new London Dollar, equivalent to 8/-. And, to the great joy of old city heads, five such London Dollars to the new theory London Pound, equivalent to £2.

One gathers that in fact a £2 coin is likely to be issued, and presumably meet a general need, in the near future; so it would not have been asking too much to expect this element of prescience from the Treasury, Mint and Bank.

Apart from its other merits, this system would have been 4 per cent deflationary where as any system based on the then £1 or 10/- unit was, by definition, bound to be 20 per cent inflationary.

And, if it had been argued that the figure of 500 (d, pence, cents or however named) was "awkward", one could (for a necessary short "bridging" period) have kept the half d in circulation as a "millieme" – even more anti-inflationary.

Yours faithfully,
LORD KILLEARN,
58 Melton Court,
Old Brompton Road, N8.

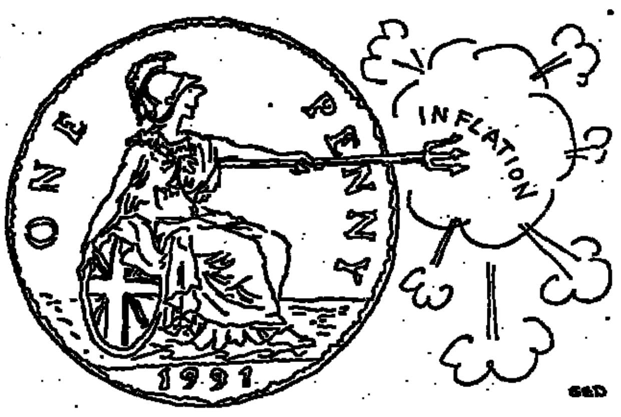
Decimal wages

From Mr John Harris

Sir, William Kay's, *Living with the decimal revolution*, leaves out what was probably the greatest stimulus to inflation, via labour costs.

Before decimalisation, wage negotiations were conducted in absolute sums: 6d per hour this year was "the same" as 6d per hour last year. After D-day, it was all percentages.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN HARRIS,
31 Princedale Road, W11.



Double debits

From Mrs C.A. Bainbridge

Sir, In October, Municipal Life decided for reasons best known to themselves to change their name to Prosperity Life.

I had paid a monthly sum by direct debit since 1982 to Municipal Life. I have just discovered, on examining my bank statements that I have been paying since November the sum twice: once to Municipal Life; the other to Prosperity Life. Nobody bothered to inform me from Prosperity that double payments had been made.

I have the Classic Account with Lloyds which earns interest. When I eventually regain the money, can I claim interest?

I have always been suspicious of direct debit, and this suspicion has been reinforced.

It is worth checking banks' statements.

Yours faithfully,
C. A. BAINBRIDGE,
Westmorland Lodge,
29 Elton Road,
Darlington,
County Durham.

Pocket petard

From Mrs A. Angas

Sir, Perhaps Mrs Millard (Weekend Money, February 2) could join my attempt to hoist the Post Office with its own petard, although it does mean an initial investment of £5 to use as working capital. Fifty pence pocket money can easily be deposited each week by the simple expedient of withdrawing £4.50, adding one's 50 pence, and immediately depositing the requisite minimum of £5. If enough of us do it, hopefully the Post Office will realise the lunacy of this ruling.

Yours hopefully,
A. ANGAS,
Carpenter's Yard,
East Pennard,
Shepton Mallet,
Somerset.

Young savers

From Mrs Jose Harrison

Sir, Mrs Millard whose daughters' efforts to invest in the National Savings Bank were repulsed on the grounds that their pocket money was too small to qualify will find that any building society is far more encouraging to small savers.

My two sons, now in their thirties, had their savings habits rewarded when at the ages of five and seven respectively they took their precious pennies to a branch of our small local society. The china pig money boxes they were given then still take pride of place on their shelves and the younger one was encouraged to such an extent that today he is a stockbroker responsible for investments of several million pounds each year.

Yours faithfully,
JOSE HARRISON,
53 Highland Road,
Leamington Spa,
Warwickshire.

Cash charge

From Mrs Dudley Massey

Sir, I went this morning to a local bank to pay a bill by Giro. I was told that as I was paying cash, there was a charge of £2!

What on earth are things coming to when one is penalised for paying cash?

Yours faithfully,
MARIANNE MASSEY,
21 Old Palace Lane,
Richmond,
Surrey.

● Letters are welcomed, but *The Times* regrets that it cannot give individual replies or advice. No legal responsibility can be accepted for advice or statements in these columns and independent professional advice should be sought.

LARGER LENDERS

Lender	Interest Rate %	Loan Size	Max %	Notes
BUILDING SOCIETIES				
Chelsea 0242 521391	12.90	£40K+	60	Rate after 1.5% reduction to 31.12.91
Northern Rock 091 285 7191	13.45	negotiable	95	Rate after 1.05% discount to 1.1.92
Norwich & Peterbor. 0733 371371	13.50	£80K+	95	
BANKS				
Abbey National 0908 691122	13.65	£60K+	100	
OTHER (FINANCE HOUSE)				
Mortgage Trust 0306 75544	13.95	£20-350K	95	

Figures supplied by Bay's Guides Ltd: Telephone 0753 880482.

INTEREST RATES ROUND-UP

	Nominal rate	Compounded at tax rates 25%	40%	Min/max investment £	Notice	Contact
BANKS						
Ordinary Dep A/c:						
Typical	3.00	3.04	2.43	none/none	7 day	—
Fixed Term Deposits:						
Barclays	9.75	9.75	7.80	25,000-50,000	1 mth	071-626 1567
"	9.42	9.42	7.54	25,000-50,000	3 mth	071-626 1567
Lloyds	8.97	8.97	7.18	2,500-no max	1 mth	Local Brnch
"	8.67	8.67	6.94	2,500-no max	6 mth	Local Brnch
Midland	9.41	9.41	7.53	10,000-no max	1 mth	071-260 2805
" " "	8.67	8.67	6.94	10,000-no max	3 mth	071-260 2805
NatWest	9.25	9.25	7.40	10,000-24,000	1 mth	071-726 1000
" " "	8.91	8.91	7.13	10,000-24,000	3 mth	071-726 1000
HIGH INTEREST CHEQUE ACCOUNTS						
Bank of Scotland MMC	9.51	9.94	7.95	2,500‡	none	031-442 7777
Barclays Prime a/c	8.75	9.04	7.23	2,500‡	none	0604 252891
Co-operative Ultra	5.80	6.00	4.80	2,500‡	none	071 626 6543
Girobank	8.00	8.00	6.40	1,000‡	none	051 966 2076
Lloyds HICA	5.00	5.12	4.07	500‡	none	0272 433372
Midland HICA	8.44	8.62	6.90	2,000‡	none	—
NatWest Special Reserve	8.00	8.24	6.59	500‡	none	071-374 3374
Royal Bank of Scot Prem A/c	8.55	8.84	7.07	2,500	none	031-556 8555
TSB Bank HICA	8.25	8.25	6.60	2,000‡	none	071-600 6000
BUILDING SOCIETIES						
Ordinary Share A/c	6.15	6.15	4.92	1 unit	none	—
Best buy — largest socs:						
Nationwide Ang	9.00	9.00	7.20	1 min	none	—
Portman	9.86	9.86	7.89	500 min	none	—
Cheltenham & G	11.03	11.03	8.83	2,500 min	none	—
Nationwide Ang	10.88	10.88	8.70	10,000 min	90 day	—
Bristol & West	12.00	12.00	9.50	25,000 min	1 year	—
Best buy — all socs:						
Holmesdale Best	10.40	10.40	8.32	500 min	none	—
Chelsea	10.75	10.75	8.50	10,000 min	30 day	—
St Pancras	10.88	10.88	8.70	3,000 min	60 day	—
Hendon	11.05	11.05	8.84	1,000 min	90 day	—
Lambeth	10.51	10.51	8.41	250 min	6 mths	—
Cash/Cheque Accounts:						
Halifax Card Cash	5.63	5.71	4.57	25 min		Rates rise
Alliance & Leic Cash Plus	6.25	6.25	5.00	25 min		with larger
Nationwide Anglia Flex	4.50	4.50	3.60	1 min		balances

Compiled by Chase de Vere Moneyline - call 071 404 5766 for further details

	Nominal rate	25%	40%	Min/max investment £	Notice	Contact
NATIONAL SAVINGS						
Ordinary A/c¹	5.00	3.75	3.00	5-10,000	8 day	041-649-4555
Investment A/c²	12.75	9.56	7.65	5-25,000	1 mth	041-649-4555
Income Bond*	13.50	10.13	8.10	2,000-25,000	3 mth	0253 66151
Deposit Bond*□	13.50	10.13	8.10		3 mth	041-649-4555
35th Issue Cert††	9.50	9.50	9.50	25-1,000	8 day	091-3864900
Yearly Plan†	9.50	9.50	9.50	20-200/mth	14 day	091-3864900
General Extension Rate†	5.01	5.01	5.01			
Capital Bond	13.00	9.75	7.80	100-100,000	5 yrs	041-649-4555
GUARANTEED INCOME BONDS						
Liberty Life	10.50	10.50	8.93	25,000 min	1 yrs	Figures from
Financial Ass.	10.05	10.05	8.54	5,000 min	2 yrs	Chase de
Liberty Life	10.00	10.00	8.50	25,000 min	3 yrs	Vere
Financial Ass.	9.85	9.85	8.37	5,000 min	4 yrs	071 404 5766
AETNA	9.75	9.75	8.29	25,000 min	5 yrs	for details

		Holiday rates	£ buys
RPI (Jan. 90-91)	+9.0%	Spanish Pesetas:	175.75
Bank Base Rate	13.5%	French Francs:	9.83
Personal Loan	24.9%	Greek Drachmas:	312.00
Credit Card	19.5-31%	Italian Lire:	2130.00

¹2.5% for balances below £500, first £70 of interest tax free. Instant access for withdrawals of £100 or less ² Additional holdings up to £10,000 for investors re-investing proceeds of existing matured certificates †Tax free *Interest taxable paid gross ‡Higher rates for larger sums □ No longer on sale

Compiled by KAREN BUCKLEY

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NET†

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INTEREST RATES

*Investment	Gross†	Net†
£25,000+	14.05%	10.53%
£10,000-24,999	13.75%	10.31%
£2,000-9,999	13.10%	9.82%

*If your minimum balance falls below £2,000 the interest rate will be 8.00% Gross, 6.00% Net.

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Rates are subject to variation. Minimum investment £2,000. Full terms and conditions are available on request. † Interest will be payable annually net of the basic rate of income tax (which may be reclaimed by non-taxpayers and is currently 25%) or payable gross subject to the required certification. If the account is closed prior to 6 April 1991 then interest will be payable at the net rate of 10.95% at tier £25,000+, 10.72% at tier £10,000-£24,999, 10.21% at tier £2,000-£9,999 and 6.24% at tier £1-£1,999, the basic rate tax liability on which will be discharged and which may not be reclaimed.

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Bad loans come home to roost

COMMENT

DUNCAN YOUNG

This week's arrears figures, the result of continuing high interest rates, a prolonged slump in the housing market and a looming recession, present the first real opportunity to judge just how robust the radically reshaped mortgage lending industry is in the aftermath of deregulation. The tough market conditions have stressed the industry more than ever before and what emerges is a gloomy picture indeed. It has to be said that the industry does not appear to have done particularly well.

Arrears and repossessions are at record levels — not a good position in a stagnant housing market. Lenders are drastically restricting the type of lending they will do and many are pulling out of the market altogether. All in all not what one might expect of an industry with a long-term view of its market and a clear idea of what it is about.

I hasten to add that the situation is not because deregulation has failed. It is, largely, the failure of the industry to respond to the new market. Many of the established lenders have not appreciated the real implications of their new-found powers and some of the new players have given insufficient thought to the implications and requirements of a long-term commitment to mortgage lending.

The problem arises from a predominantly short-term view of the market. Over the past two years many lenders have been too busy fighting for their market share to worry too much about how they were going to manage the assets once they had them.

To be fair, they had some help from the government. The housing market was artificially boosted in 1988 by exceptionally low interest rates and the then Chancellor's decision to give three months' notice of the end of dual mortgage interest tax relief. This was akin to throwing petrol on a blaze.

The resulting surge in demand boosted prices rapidly and houses no longer became somewhere to live but, for some at least, something to be traded. In this environment lenders fought still harder for a share of what looked more like a gravy train than a roller coaster. In so doing they did not always lend on the most prudent terms.

There was an alarming relaxation in underwriting criteria. Lenders could be found offering loans at four or five times income, valuations were not checked as carefully as they might have been, and loans were provided to almost anyone who cared to ask.

This was justified — if not at the time, then certainly with hindsight — by the belief that house prices could not and would not go down. Even if loans went wrong the lender would be more than adequately covered by the inevitable increase in property values. This simple article of faith enabled the blind pursuit of market share unfettered by thought of prudence, margin or plain common sense.

By mid-1989, in the face of rising inflation, interest rates started to increase rapidly. The housing market had built up such a head of steam by this time and lenders were so keen to maintain market share at any cost that it was some months before the full effects of the interest rate rises began to be felt in the housing market. For some lenders the real implications of their blind faith are only now becoming apparent. These problems have been compounded by the industry's activities in 1990. Faced with an inactive housing market, lenders, and others who make their living from the mortgage market, felt the need to continue to write business. The market shifted towards remortgages. Incentives were provided, legal fees paid and underwriting criteria cut further.

Undoubtedly, many reliable borrowers decided to remortgage on sensible terms, but all too often the new loan was an arrangement to lend more money to a borrower who was already having difficulty paying his existing mortgage. The misery and the problems that will grow from much of this lending have probably yet to emerge.

All in all, the past two years have been a salutary lesson in how quickly the housing market can turn. Those lenders who have been around for more than a century ought, perhaps, to have known better, and I hope that those new to the market will learn their lesson well. But it will be painful. Both sorts of lender have suffered as house prices have fallen and those who lent carelessly, and lent a lot, will have suffered the most.

I guess that this is the way that markets are intended to work. A combination of consumer demand and commercial reality will result in prudent, well managed companies surviving while weaker ones decline or withdraw from the market. In a market that changes as rapidly as this, complacent organisations will go out of business.

The long term outlook for the mortgage market is undoubtedly good, but it will be only those lenders who really understand what they are doing, and can make a profit whilst servicing the needs of customers, that will survive. I am not yet convinced the lesson has been learned but I am certain that the pain yet to come will ensure that it is.

Duncan Young is managing director of the Household Mortgage Corporation.

Mortgage rates on hold

MORTGAGE lenders may face a reduction in demand for fixed rate mortgages after this week's half point cut in base rates (Liz Dolan writes).

Fixed rate offers are unlikely to be withdrawn, but according to the Halifax Building Society "more people may now decide on a variable rate mortgage, or wait and see what's going to happen before plumping for a fixed rate".

The Halifax has a fixed-rate mortgage of 12.75 per cent until July 31, 1993. However, Mortgage Express is confident of a healthy demand for its new scheme, which pegs the rate at 12.75 per cent for two years until April 2, 1993.

"Business was not really affected by the 1 per cent cut last autumn," said a spokesman. "And we've had a good response in the first three days for the new one. But we are constantly reviewing the situation and, if demand dries up, we'll review the terms of our offer."

Abbey National says it intends to continue marketing for the time being its new mortgage to be launched on Monday, fixed at 12.25 per cent until June 30, 1994. TSB also has no plans to withdraw its new 12.5 per cent endowment mortgage offer, fixed until the end of April 1993.

Lenders are most likely to change their minds when there is a cut in the actual mortgage rate, an event unlikely to occur until April according to most observers.

When a mortgage rate cut is announced, fixed rate offers tend to be withdrawn immediately, to be replaced by new schemes with lower interest rates or shorter time spans, the Halifax said.

Fixed mortgages react to trends, rather than the actual mortgage rate. Their popularity started at the end of 1988, when rates were still low. With that trend now reversed, mortgage lenders will have to start thinking of other ways to tempt buyers back into the market.

Mortgage rate cuts, Repossession figures, page 34

Helplines snowed under

By MARGARET DIBBEN

INSURANCE company helplines will this week have been a boon for many home owners with burst pipes. The 24-hour telephone services can put policyholders in touch with a local plumber and ensure they are not overcharged for emergency work.

All the large insurance companies and many of the direct insurers now have helplines. General Accident runs its own scheme from its head office in Perth, Tayside, while the others use a central service, the main two of which are run by Hambro Legal Protection and Europ Assistance.

Hambro operates a scheme for, among others, Guardian Royal Exchange, Royal London, Norwich Union, Legal & General and Top UK. Europ Assistance acts for Eagle Star, Commercial Union, Prudential and Cornhill, as well as American Express and several other credit card companies.

In the first few days of the freeze, the helplines saw a moderately increased workload. But as the thaw set in and frozen pipes roofs began to leak, they were inundated by calls from desperate home owners needing plumbers and builders.

Europ Assistance has just installed a telephone system that tells callers how long they are held in a queue. Hambro does not expect any delays in answering.

The helplines have their own panels of thousands of workmen, and are able to keep an effective control on pricing.

Costs vary enormously around the country. John Poston, operations manager with Hambro, said: "The average charge in towns for an out of hours call for a plumber is about £20 to £25 an hour. If he wanted to charge £30 or much above that, I don't think we would be too interested in them."

A spokesman for General Accident said: "The workmen are not endorsed by the company nor is their work guaranteed, but if they are unsatisfactory they are taken off our register."

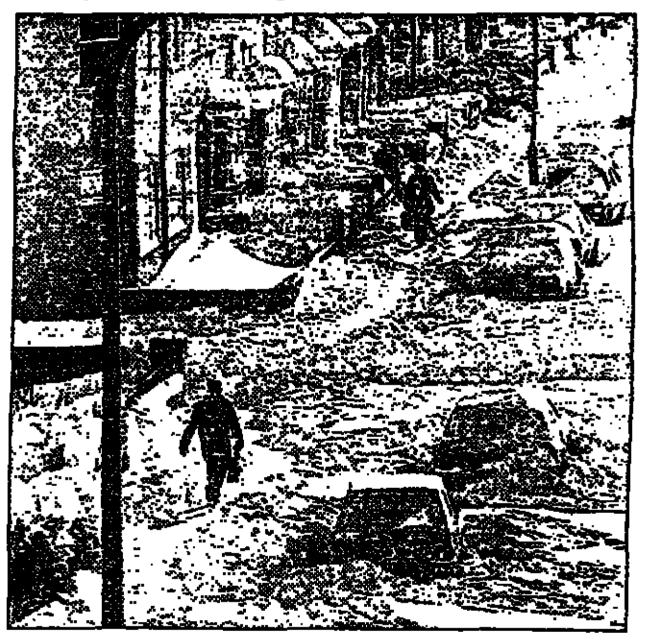
The insurance company provides the telephone number and the customer then arranges a visit. A day or so later, the company will telephone the policyholder to check on how satisfied they were with the plumber. Using a contractor on the insurance company's register does not automatically mean that the cost will be met by the insurer, although companies will give guidance beforehand on the likelihood of a claim succeeding.

Helplines are not only for emergency calls. Policyholders can phone with a wide range of home-related queries.

Malcolm Betridge, marketing manager at GRE, said: "The helpline can help out on anything from the current emergencies to just finding an electrician to put a plug on a new washing machine."

To avoid problems in the first place, Commercial Union advises:

- If fitted carpets become soaked, do not take them up because they will shrink.
- If other carpets are flooded, do not fold them.
- If water is dripping through an electric light, turn off the mains.
- Find out now where the stopcock is.



Deep freeze: home owners faced extra problems

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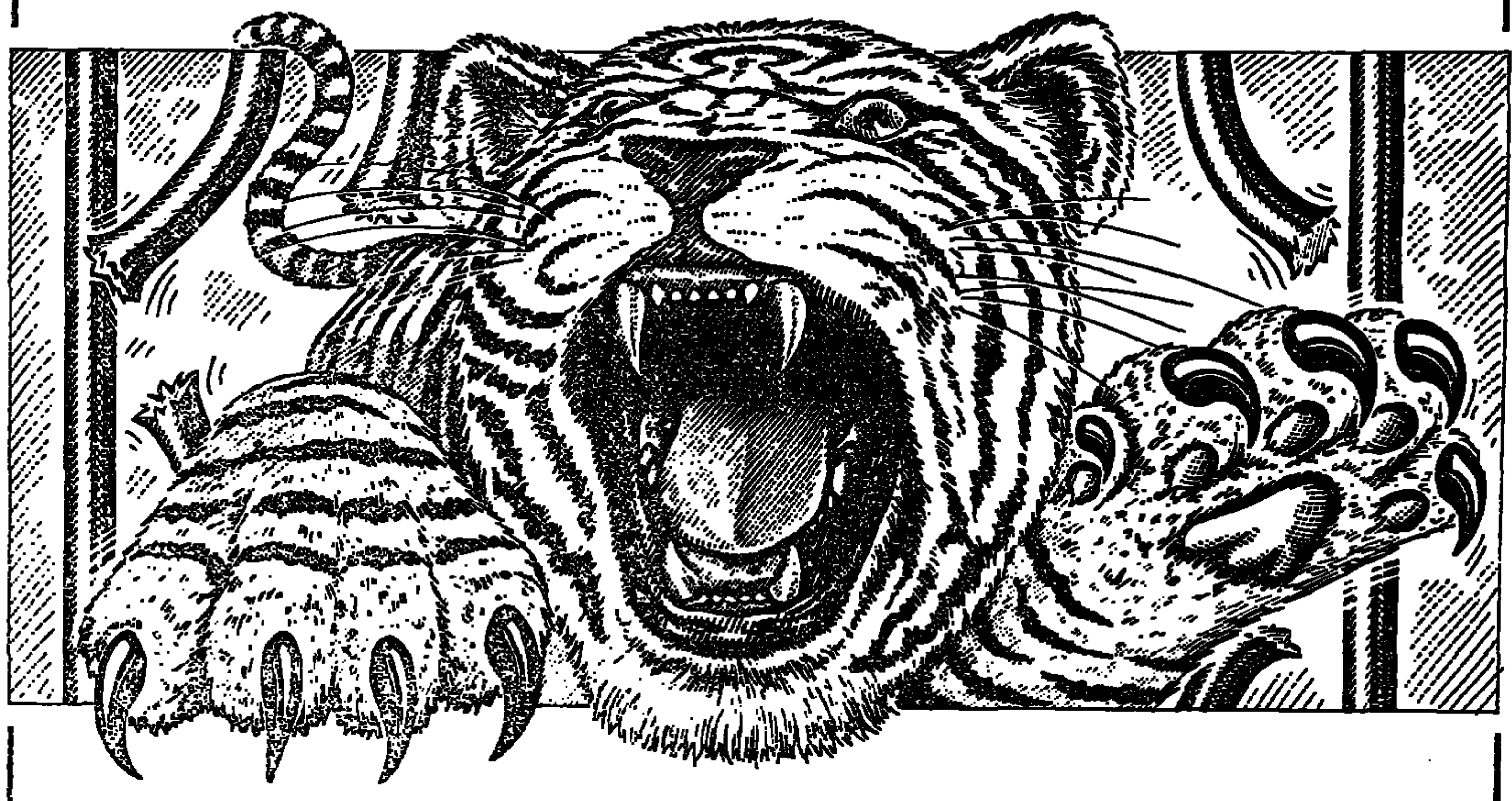

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*Source: Best PEP Advice, from 6.4.89 — 6.10.90.
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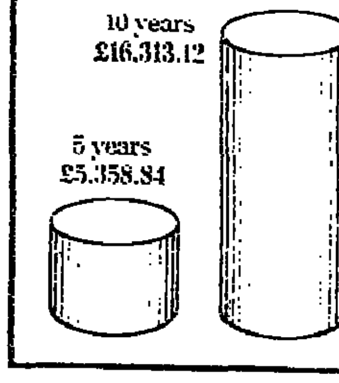

If TAXBREAK had been available, its tax free benefits would have increased even these impressive figures.

**Source Micropal. Figures to 1.1.91. offer to bid net income reinvested.

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T/16.2 TBT

Portfolio PLATINUM

For readers who may have missed a copy of *The Times* this week, we repeat below the week's *Portfolio* price changes (today's are on page 33).

Share No	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Weekly Total
1	+6	+7	+5	+6	+8		
2	+8	+5	+3	+8	+6		
3	+6	+9	+4	+7	+8		
4	+5	+5	+5	+7	+8		
5	+7	+9	+5	+6	+9		
6	+8	+7	+2	+7	+5		
7	+5	+7	+7	+6	+7		
8	+5	+7	+4	+5	+7		
9	+7	+8	+6	+7	+7		
10	+5	+8	+8	+6	+6		
11	+4	+6	+7	+7	+8		
12	+6	+7	+4	+6	+8		
13	+5	+6	+7	+8	+6		
14	+7	+5	+4	+6	+5		
15	+6	+6	+3	+6	+9		
16	+5	+8	+5	+5	+8		
17	+4	+5	+3	+7	+9		
18	+7	+8	+4	+5	+8		
19	+8	+6	+4	+7	+7		
20	+6	+6	+3	+5	+8		
21	+5	+8	+5	+5	+7		
22	+9	+6	+2	+7	+6		
23	+5	+8	+7	+7	+6		
24	+7	+5	+3	+6	+6		
25	+5	+6	+4	+7	+7		
26	+6	+7	+4	+6	+7		
27	+4	+7	+7	+7	+7		
28	+9	+7	+4	+6	+6		
29	+4	+5	+4	+6	+7		
30	+9	+6	+3	+8	+5		
31	+6	+8	+6	+6	+8		
32	+7	+7	+3	+6	+7		
33	+4	+7	+7	+7	+8		
34	+5	+6	+4	+6	+9		
35	+5	+6	+3	+5	+7		
36	+7	+6	+8	+7	+6		
37	+8	+5	+9	+7	+7		
38	+6	+7	+8	+6	+9		
39	+5	+7	+6	+7	+9		
40	+5	+6	+6	+7	+6		
41	+4	+7	+3	+5	+9		
42	+5	+9	+4	+6	+9		
43	+5	+7	+7	+9	+6		
44	+7	+6	+2	+8	+6		

Top up your company pension and enjoy your retirement

To get the maximum pension available you normally have to be in the same company pension scheme for 40 years.

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First among equals proves master in art of persuasion

By CAROL LEONARD

BUSINESS PROFILE

Jim Butler

Pause for a minute and imagine you are the chairman of a multinational company. You would, of course, be decisive, strong, a natural leader. You would watch with satisfaction as your commands filtered down through a tightly networked chain of managers. It would feel good.

But now think again. You are still the chairman of a multinational company, but this time it is a partnership in which you can never be more than a partner. Just like all the other partners, you too have one vote. Imagine then trying to persuade 6,000 partners and 75,000 employees in 123 different countries to see things your way. It would be an entirely different job and it would call for entirely different skills.

Jim Butler, aged 61, chairman since January of KPMG, the biggest accountancy practice in the world, and for the past four years senior partner of Peat Marwick McLintock, its British offshoot, makes the latter look easy and insists that he prefers it to the former.

"I suppose it would be easier to operate within a company structure, and looking ten or 15 years ahead, yes, I suppose we will have a corporate structure," he says. "But I would regret it. In meetings with senior partners of other firms, I am the most outspoken against it, but even they are less keen than they once were."

Butler then, a man on first name terms with most of the captains of British industry, is a resister of change, a lover of tradition and a stickler for the loyalty that the partnership system nurtures.

But, nevertheless, it was he who was instrumental in negotiating Peat Marwick's merger with its European counterpart, Klynveld Main Goerdeler, between September 1986 and March 1987 – against all the well-voiced odds. Others in the industry, who had already tried and failed such feats, claimed that it was impossible, especially within a partnership structure. They had reached the conclusion that partnerships were ungovernable. The press was sceptical. But Butler, more than any other individual, proved them all wrong.

"A lot of people were surprised when we achieved it. It was the only time this firm has had a secret ballot. But more than 90 per cent of partners in both firms agreed to it. They had to be persuaded, but even partners are prepared to follow a lead, provided it is logically argued and persuasive."

Persuasive is a word Butler uses a lot. And it is the key to his management skill. A tall man, standing 6 ft 1 ins and weighing almost 16 stone, he is, in keeping with his build, never aggressive. Instead, he is surprisingly shy and retiring. He sometimes stutters slightly when he meets someone for the first time, or if he is talking on the telephone, which he hates. He prefers to operate in two, three or four man face to face meetings and he dreads public speaking, so much so that he used to have sleepless nights before he had to address a public meeting.

"It used to be a real problem. But when I was close to becoming senior partner I had lots of coaching to help me. It was just a total lack of confidence. But there's still no point talking to me on the day when I've got to give a speech. If I've had a partners' meeting I find I can't recall anything afterwards."

He also hates flying, even though he has to do more long-distance travelling than most. He has visited 40 of the countries in which KPMG has offices, and spends 20 per cent of the year abroad. That figure rose to 60 per cent at the height of the merger negotiations. But it is characteristic of Butler not to shy away from either flying or public speaking.

"That would be admitting defeat. I force myself to do it." Nor is he deterred by Iraq's threat of terrorist attacks. "I think it's pathetic for Americans to refuse to come over here at the moment. I feel quite strongly about it. It's so wet. The world just can't slow down and stop, it has got to keep going."

Margaret, his wife of 37 years, agrees that he will never put anything off. "He will always make the telephone call, write the letter or meet the person, right off. If something needs to be done he just does it. When he was young and studying for his accountancy exams, he would work for two hours every evening without fail. If for some reason he hadn't done it, he would get up at 5 am the next day and do it then. He never makes excuses."

But far greater than either his fear of flying or of public speaking, and perhaps underlying at least the flying phobia, is his dislike of not being at the helm.

"I do like to be in control," he admits. That apparent retiring approach to life is, it seems, only skin deep. And he has been known to almost – but not quite – lose his temper. "I can get very cross. I don't have shouting matches with people but they are always aware that I am cross. I go very red in the face."

But Butler is, in many respects, a surprising man to have risen to the top of such a large firm, and to have co-ordinated the "undoable" merger so successfully.

"We haven't lost a single plc client as a result," he says proudly. He seems too nice, too well balanced and, in short, too normal. But beneath that relaxed, slightly bashful exterior, lies a trait so common to successful men: an unerring ability for hard work, energy and dogged determination.

It is his calm, quiet exterior and his determination that are his best assets. Everyone underestimates him. But Butler is quietly taking it all in, analysing it in his head and always, no matter what, staying in control, even if it might look momentarily as if he has delegated entirely.

"He would never try to assert himself because there is no need," says his wife. "He always knows what needs to be done and makes sure it gets done. It's as simple as that. He is good at bringing people together, creating a team and getting them to do things. They are usually completely unaware he is doing anything at all, it is all done in such a friendly way."

As chairman of the Winchester Cathedral Appeal – he spends his weekends on a 500-acre arable farm just outside the Hampshire city – he has set out to raise £7 million before the end of the year. He speaks about his target as if it were pocket change.

"We've got £2.5 million so far and hope to get another £1 million in the next six weeks. We should have raised £5 million by July." He certainly does get things done.

> 'I can get very cross. I don't have shouting matches with people but they are always aware that I am cross. I go very red in the face'

Butler is, however, conscious of the manipulative techniques he uses. He learned them, he says, from one of his managers, when he first joined Peat Marwick as an articled clerk in 1952. "If you asked him a difficult question he always sat and looked at you, without saying anything, and so you eventually asked him another. I suddenly worked out what he was doing and now I sometimes do that too." He had, in fact, attempted to do it repeatedly, throughout the interview.

When it comes to the art of persuasion, that too is not as effortless as it looks. "If I have a meeting with one or two people I think it all through beforehand in my own mind; how they will react, what they will say. I often think it through when I'm lying in bed, between six and seven in the morning. It's a bit like a game of chess. I frequently see other people making dreadful mistakes in the way they approach someone."

His loathing of public speaking is countered by his positive enjoyment of meeting people at smaller gatherings and it was in this way that he conducted most of KPMG's merger negotiations, with handfuls of partners all over the world. Hence all that flying.

DES JENSON

Marriage partnership: Jim Butler, chairman of KPMG, the accountancy practice, and Margaret, his wife of 37 years

"I'm good at chairing meetings and happy to sit down and talk to anyone, around a table," he says. But he has not always found it so easy to talk to people, even face to face. He was painfully shy, not just as a child, but as an adult.

"Ten years ago if I went into a cocktail party knowing that there was somebody there I ought to meet, I wouldn't be able to talk to them. Now I can."

Yet despite such obvious, deep seated, sensitivities – or perhaps because of them – he gets on extremely well with such notoriously complex characters as Tiny Rowland of Lonrho, and Lord Sterling of P&O. He is still the client partner for both firms, as well as five or six others.

"It's an unwritten rule here that everyone should have some clients, to keep them in touch with what is going on in the profession." As for Rowland, he says: "We get on very well. He is absolutely charming. But I would never work under him. He is a difficult man to work for, very demanding, and he has a very persuasive way of being demanding." Clearly, in that respect, a man after Butler's own heart.

"It's been extremely taxing on many occasions, he has sacked me two or three times over the years by ringing up my senior partner and saying 'I don't want Butler any more'. But difficult clients are always more interesting."

But when the conversation is steered away from business to his early childhood, Butler suddenly stalls. "No one has ever asked me about that before." His wife concurs: "It's something he almost never talks about."

The only child of his father's second marriage, the young Butler wanted for nothing materially. His father, 49 years old when Jim was born, was a farmer turned businessman and a director of United Dairies, now part of Unigate. His mother, 15 years younger, was a member of the Wadworth brewery family.

He was desperately lonely as a child. "We lived in a large house just outside Bath. It was a long way from anywhere and only occasionally did other children seem to appear. I regretted not having a sister or a brother to play with. I used to read a tremendous amount, *Swallows and Amazons* and detective stuff. And I would always be kicking a rugby ball about, backwards and forwards over a hedge, for hours on end, practicing my conversions."

He was closest to his father, "an old fashioned gentleman" and "much warmer" than his mother. But his father died when Butler was 16. His mother, in contrast was "undoubtedly pretty and rather cold".

He was raised largely by nannies and his mother died when Butler was 21. In her latter years she developed a debilitating disease that caused partial paralysis. But Butler, curiously for such an intelligent man, says he cannot remember, or does not know, what that illness was.

"I was never desperately close to my mother. My friends at school and university meant far more to me at that stage."

It was, perhaps understandably, at school – Marlborough – that Butler, for the first time, found real happiness. "I loved everything about it. I was not a rebel." He was a good all-rounder, excelling at mathematics and science and also rugby, cricket and hockey. He became head boy and his rugby skills took him into the Bath 1st XV. But his sporting career was brought to an abrupt halt, shortly after he went up to Clare College, Cambridge, by a motorbike accident in which he damaged his shoulder.

But despite his obvious team and leadership skills it was, nevertheless, an unlikely childhood for a man who is now so steady and well-balanced. "He is remarkably unscathed by it all," says his wife.

And despite his renowned self-discipline, which means that he will never put off doing anything, even if he hates it, he cannot bear to have discipline imposed upon him by external forces. He describes his national service days as the worst part of his life.

"I found it all so restricting and futile. I'm not a rebellious sort of person but I couldn't stand the discipline and all the bullshit." As a young articled clerk at Peat's, he was so in awe of authority he didn't tell his manager that he was getting married.

"I thought he would tell me that I couldn't, because I hadn't qualified. I just took two weeks holiday, invited all our family and friends and one or two people from work – it was a pukka wedding – but didn't tell my superiors. When I got back my boss told me I'd been silly because he would have taken me out for a bit of a party." His wife then points out: "He might have been very aware of authority, but it didn't stop him doing it."

Butler then, beneath that still surface, is a man of constant contradictions. And he has been more deeply affected by his childhood than perhaps he realises. He is devoted to his children, Elizabeth, aged 33, Sue, aged 31, and David, aged 29, but his wife describes him as a "dependable" father rather than an "overly affectionate" one. He is emotional but finds it extremely difficult to express it.

"He is always a little reserved. He might hold my hand if we are out walking but we would never sit and hold hands in front of the television. He would regard that as soppy. He does not seem to need physical contact." It was obviously something he never had as a child. But, his wife adds, he hates to be left on his own now.

"I used to be very shy but you can't do this job without meeting people and so I'm not as shy as I once was," Butler says of himself. But he admits that he now puts on an act. "I have to consciously make an effort to talk to people."

But that unusual childhood did, it seems, have its uses. For just as he once acted out entire rugby matches in his head, playing all alone in his expansive garden, so he now recites business meetings and discussions in his head as he lies in bed at 6.30 in the morning.

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Leeds card holders face double rise in charges

By LIZ DOLAN

HOLDERS of Leeds Permanent Building Society's Visa card are facing two separate rises in charges within a month of each other.

The first, an increase in the monthly interest rate, takes place on March 5. Then, on April 4, the Leeds will start charging interest from the transaction date rather than the statement date for people who do not pay off their balance in full every month.

The Leeds says it has brought forward the date that triggers the charge because it wants the customer to carry the cost, currently borne by the society, of repaying the retailer.

"We have to come up with the money around the transaction date," said Charles Wycks, head of the Leeds's Visa department.

"But, at the moment, we may have to wait a couple of months before the customer starts paying us."

The Midland announced last week that it would start charging from the transaction date, while Barclays, Royal Bank of Scotland, Girobank and the Co-op Bank already do and others are expected to follow suit.

The monthly interest rate on the Leeds card will rise from 2.15 per cent (APR 29.08 per cent) to 2.3 per cent (APR 31.1 per cent). The APR charged on cash advances rises from 29.84 to 32.1 per cent.

Customers who pay their balance in full will continue to receive up to seven weeks' interest-free credit.

The Leeds is not ruling out the introduction of an annual fee, but is considering some type of dual charging mechanism.

Card holders may be offered the choice of a lower initial charge, or even a free card, in exchange for paying a higher interest rate.

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SUMMARY

Saatchi chief settles

THE chief executive of Saatchi & Saatchi, the advertising agency, has agreed to pay $213.750 to settle an action brought by the American Securities and Exchange Commission under insider dealing laws.

Robert Louis-Dreyfus, who was barely known in the advertising industry at the time of his appointment 15 months ago, agreed to settle SEC charges without admitting or denying wrongdoing.

Saatchi is currently hoping to win the support of the London and New York financial communities for a restructuring .... Page 32

Shy leader

Jim Butler has overcome painful shyness to rise to the chairmanship of KPMG, the biggest accountancy practice in the world and the largest professional firm with annual fee income of $5.4 billion. He talks to Carol LeonardPage 39

EC mergers

European Community merger investigations should become more independent, says the Mergers and Monopolies Commission in its annual report .... Page 32

Pound firmer

The pound was encouraged by the latest inflation figures and a weaker mark. But dealers said the money market was not yet discounting a further cut in interest rates. Reports Iraq was prepared to withdraw from Kuwait boosted the dollar for a time before Washington dismissed the news as a delaying tactic............ Page 33

Loan rate eases

Mortgage rates are starting to fall, although most of the big building societies are waiting for another half-point cut. This will not help record numbers of people facing arrears or repossession. Page 36

Your letters

Building societies started a Warwickshire reader's sons off on a lifetime of prudent saving. One now handles millions of pounds as a stockbroker .... Page 37

Home help

Insurance company helplines have been helping people cope with the thaw by putting them in contact with plumbers who will mend their burst pipes at a reasonable price...... Page 38

THE SUNDAY TIMES

TV battle

"Suddenly he hears a scuffle of feet and sees a man running down the street towards him. He can just make out the envelope in his hand. His heart sinks. It is another bid for the London weekend licence and the man making it is . . ."

The TV franchise battle – The Sunday Times tomorrow.

******

Confusion feared over two-tier pricing

Credit card customers face charge on goods allowing retailers to pass on fees. Lindsay Cook reports

BOB COLLIER

Cash or credit: a customer offers a choice of money or a card to pay for a suit, but from next month, using plastic could cost more

FROM March 7, hundreds of thousands of traders will be able to charge credit card customers more than those who pay by cheque, cash or debit card. The Credit Cards (Price Discrimination) Order is intended to allow retailers who accept cards to reclaim the fee charged by the credit card companies from the card customers.

Banks and consumer organisations fear the move will lead to confusion at tills and to customers being overcharged.

The change was recommended by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission in 1989. The legality of such surcharges was challenged through the courts by the credit card companies, so delaying implementation. Last week, the regulations on how retailers should operate differential pricing were laid before Parliament.

The service fee paid to the credit card companies is, on average, 1.65 per cent of the sale price, with smaller shops and restaurants paying up to 4 per cent. Charge card fees can be higher. Traders will be able to charge more to recover these fees from credit card customers.

Retailers who decide to introduce differential pricing will be able to choose which price they display on goods. They will be able to put the cash price on items and display signs at all entrances and at each till stating how much more credit card customers will be charged. Alternatively, they could display the credit card price and put up notices saying that cash customers will be charged less.

A trade department spokeswoman said it would also be possible for shops to charge one price for cash, another for Visa cards, a different price for Access cards, and another price for American Express and Diners Club cards.

Credit card companies can remember the rush by petrol filling stations to surcharge credit card customers after a similar recommendation by the MMC in 1980. At the that time, the average *retailer fee was 2.5 per cent, with* petrol companies paying far less, but filling stations charged up to 5 per cent more to credit card users. The trade department put an end to dual pricing the following year.

While credit card issuers and customers will try to discourage a two price system, cash customers, who still outnumber credit card users, are being advised to ask for discounts for cash. A National Consumer Council spokesman said that if a retailer who accepts credit and charge cards does not display a sign stating that it is operating dual pricing, cash customers should ask for a discount equal to the service fee.

Jean Eaglesham, a senior researcher at the Consumers' Association, said: "One of the things we are concerned about is the massive potential for confusion. Shoppers will have to make sure they know what they are going to pay, particularly if they are using a multi-function card." These cards can be used to guarantee cheques, or as debit cards or credit cards. With differential pricing, it will be possible for retailers to charge more when such cards are used as credit cards than for their other functions.

Issuers of debit cards are also concerned that customers using them should not be surcharged. At the end of this month a new Visa design for debit cards will be launched. These cards will be called Delta cards and will carry the word debit for the first time. However, it will take up to three years for all debit card users to get the new cards because they will be issued only when current ones expire. Lloyds Bank also plans to change the look of its payment card, which currently bears the words Lloyds Bank and Visa. The new cards will be issued from April.

The bank will also write to all the retailers it has signed up for its credit card and debit card before March 7, pointing out how they work. A spokeswoman said: "We reserve the right to terminate the agreements with those retailers who overcharge our customers."

Ian Lindsey, director of banking at Save & Prosper, expects dual pricing to be used where competition is limited, such as motorway *services or rural areas where* customers have only one electrical retailer for 20 miles. "I am sure the major petrol companies will, at some time, introduce differential pricing. It will be easiest to introduce on motorways where buying petrol is a distress purchase. The Office of Fair Trading might do well to watch areas where it comes in first as it will *indicate a lack* of competition."

Mr Lindsey said he would refuse to pay a credit card surcharge. He would insist on paying by cheque and this would mean that for larger items the payment would not be guaranteed. He said that banks did not benefit from the guaranteed payment with credit cards, but retailers did. They received an instant and guaranteed payment. If customers were to be surcharged, they would, *in effect, be paying for that* guarantee.

"It is going to be a difficult and unpredictable time. The big stores won't try it on. It will be the smaller, less reputable ones who see differential pricing as a way of increasing revenue at the expense of the customers," he said.

> 'It will be the smaller, less reputable stores who see differential pricing as a way of increasing revenue at the customer's expense'

Mr Lindsey added that the freedom to charge more for credit card customers would make a nonsense of the interest rate calculations as the extra charge for credit card customers would not be included in the annual percentage rate for credit. Miss Eaglesham said the Consumers' Association had wanted signs at shop entrances and tills, using two or more prices to give an example of what the extra percentage would mean per £10 spent.

The Retail Consortium plans to issue guidance notes to retailers before March 7 on how to operate dual pricing legally. A first draft has been sent to banks, consumer organisations and the Office of Fair Trading for consultation.

Michael Wilsey, assistant director at the Retail Consortium, said: "It is an exposition to help the retailer decide whether it will be worth their while to charge different prices and telling them how to set about it. They need to know the pros and cons of surcharging or discounting and to know the pitfalls. Many don't know whether *what they are proposing to do is* lawful or otherwise."

A spokesman for Barclaycard, which has more than nine million customers, said it would be difficult to stop retailers charging more than the merchant service charge levied by card companies.

Barclaycard had asked the trade department to amend the regulations at the draft stage, so that retailers would be restricted legally to charging credit and charge card customers no more than the service fee. It also wanted the maximum price for all goods to be displayed clearly.

Instead, the department put the onus on the credit card companies. The Credit Card Order allows the credit card companies to rewrite all their contracts with retailers, which could restrict them to charging no more than the additional merchant fee. However, there is no legal sanction for retailers who charge credit card customers more.

The Barclaycard spokesman said: "It will be very difficult to police 350,000 outlets, particularly as there will be no legal way of reinforcing it."

Dark side to direct debit

By Sara McConnell

ARRANGING to pay regular bills by credit card turned out to be more of a problem than a convenience for Colin Campbell, a solicitor, when he moved from London to Suffolk at the end of 1989.

Mr Campbell's electricity bills were paid automatically by direct debit out of his National Westminster Bank Access account. When he moved he did not see the need to cancel the debit because he had moved out of the London Electricity area and assumed he would not incur any more bills.

But nine months after moving to *Suffolk* his Access account was debited with £83.03, which had been taken from his account by London Electricity to pay for power he had never used.

When Mr Campbell wrote to Access asking how this had happened, the card services department replied: "Although I note from your correspondence that you moved from London, and therefore have subsequently been paying your electricity bills in Suffolk, at the time of moving you should have contacted the retailer direct cancelling your authority.

"Therefore in the circumstances *as we were provided with a signed* authority from the retailer authorising them to debit your Access account and as this was not cancelled by yourself, we cannot assist further in this matter."

Mr Campbell wrote back: "I do not see why it should be my job to pursue the matter with the retailer. If the charge is correct then I will pay it but I cannot understand how electricity charges should arise nine months after I left the property in question."

He added that he had deducted the amount of the electricity *charge and interest* from his Access payment.

Three months later, in December, Access told Mr Campbell that if he did not pay the outstanding balance of the account within 14 days it would withdraw all benefits on his card. His name would also be registered with credit reference agencies as a defaulter if *he did not pay within 28 days.*

MICHAEL POWELL

Dispute: Colin Campbell found Access an inflexible friend

Mr Campbell has refused to take up Access's offer to accept minimum monthly payments of at least 5 per cent of the outstanding balance *on his account every* month.

"My grouse is that Access should have investigated why I suddenly got an electricity bill. If they took me *to court* they would have to show that I used the electricity," he said.

But a spokesman for NatWest said the bank had acted correctly. If a customer pays regular bills by credit card, the customer gives the supplier (in this case London Electricity) authority to take the money out of the account. Banks *call this a* continuous authorised transaction.

"Mr Campbell's argument is with London Electricity not us. He has entered an agreement with the *company.*"

Access says it is unable to approach any supplier on a customer's behalf and is not responsible for the supplier taking money *out of the account.*

This is not the case with direct debits set up on current accounts. The bank will take responsibility and pay back the customer immediately if it wrongly takes money out of the customer's current account.

On the road to cash bonuses in America

From Philip Robinson in New York

MOTORISTS in California have faced two-tier prices for their petrol for years. Drivers wanting to pay with a credit card are charged about 9 per cent more than those offering cash.

BP and some Chevron stations are among those charging less for cash, said the Californian Service Station Association. At some garages, a different price is also charged for motorists serving themselves with petrol compared with those who want full service.

Regene Mitchell, president of the Consumer Federation of California, which has 15,000 members, said: "I've seen a difference in the price between self service and full service as high as 70 cents [60 per cent]. But that's because some of the garages have *only one attendant, who is caged* inside with the cash and they want to discourage anyone from calling him out of that booth."

Garages typically show their cheapest cash price per gallon outside the forecourt. In southern California, petrol costs about $1.13 a gallon for basic unleaded petrol, but $1.20 on a credit card.

Dr Mitchell said: "There are some garages which say they don't *have any difference, but then they* get you both ways, because they usually take the difference between $1.13 and $1.20, and charge everyone $1.18. We would like to see a discount for those who pay cash because cash customers are subsidising credit card holders."

However, a spokesman for Visa International in San Franscisco said garages operating dual pricing in America gave discounts for cash, while those paying with credit cards paid the official rate. He added that it was against Visa regulations to surcharge for using *a credit card.*

Credit card customers are being charged an interest rate of between 24 and 29 per cent. Last year, the consumer lobby lost the battle to cap rates at 19.01 per cent.

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[illegible] details [illegible] & Prosper's Managed Portfolio [illegible]
Initials
Postcode

THE PRICE OF INVESTMENTS AND THE INCOME FROM THEM MAY GO DOWN AS WELL AS UP. TAX CONCESSIONS ARE SUBJECT TO STATUTORY CHANGE. SAVE & PROSPER GROUP LTD. IS A MEMBER OF IMRO AND LAUTRO.

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